Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-92-113
Thursday
11 June 1992

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Iraq

An Iraqi "opposition leader" reported that Saddam Husayn recently dismissed 3,200 officers on charges of taking part in an attempted coup against him, according to SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI. The "opposition leader" stated that a plan to assassinate Saddam was intended to take place during the ceremony marking the completion of al-Jumhuriyah Bridge, but the government "uncovered the intended assassination plan at the last moment." Meanwhile, French economic sources said the recent drop in the price of gold may have been result of Iraq's sale of 50 tons of gold reserves, SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI reported. Sources cited by the paper speculated that "this flagrant breach of the economic embargo" was engineered "by agents outside of Iraq" from a "secret gold warehouse" in a Western country. The minister of awqaf and religious affairs sent a letter to his counterparts in Muslim countries calling for "an urgent session" to consider the "excesses against and inhuman treatment" of pilgrims by the Saudi authorities, INA reported. In other news, Dr. Hamid Sa'id al-Musawi, head of the Iraqi delegation to the disarmament conference in Geneva, said the "interpretations, allegations, and fabrications regarding Iraq's arms programs are all wrong," and that the Iraqi Government "has absolutely not sought to possess nuclear weapons," according to INA.

Israel

A memorandum of understanding between China and Israel regulating trade and economic relations was signed in Beijing, Jerusalem radio reported. Restrictions on Israeli exports to China and Chinese exports to Israel will be "mutually canceled," according to the radio. In other news, Japan said it would invest in Israel "only after progress was made in the peace process," Jerusalem radio reported. Japanese commercial banks will not provide Tel Aviv with loan guarantees because of what they termed a "high financial risk."

Jordan

King Husayn is studying three options for forming a new government, AL-BAYAN reports. The options include forming a national unity government of notables, reshuffling the present government, and forming a government from young technocrats to administer. The King will make the final decision "within the next days and before the end of the month," according to the report.

Iran

Nine "saboteurs" involved in the 15 April Shiraz riots received sentences, and four of them have been executed, IRNA reported.

Inter-Arab Affairs

World Intervention To End Israeli Acts Urged

NC1006145592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1341 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 10 Jun (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid called on the world community to strongly intervene to end the Israeli aggressions against southern Lebanon and to establish Lebanon's sovereignty over all Lebanese territories, in accordance with Security Council Resolution 425.

In a message released marking the blessed 'Id al-Adha event, 'Abd-al-Majid stated that the Israeli occupation troops' continued military Gaza siege is a serious precedence and a flagrant violation of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid stated that the Israeli occupation troops' inhuman practices against the Palestinian citizens require a firm international position.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid appealed to the world community to show interest in the sufferings of the Kuwaiti people due to the continued imprisonment of Kuwaitis in Iraq, the Iraqi children's suffering due to the medicine shortage, and the threat of famine in Somalia. Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid noted the massacres of the people of Bosnia-Hercegovina and called on the world community to do its utmost to end these acts, which contradict law, ethics, and international legality.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Delivers Address on 'Zionist Occupier'

LD1006202892 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 10 Jun 92

["Text" of address by Yasir 'Arafat, president of the "state" of Palestine, to the masses of the blessed Intifadah and Arab and Islamic nations marking 'Id al-Adha festivities—read by announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate: [passage omitted]

O masses of the blessed popular Intifadah; O heroes of the revolution of the sacred stone; O strugglers, makers of the steadfast heroic resistance in beloved Palestine; O men of resistance, who are being hunted in the mountains and rivers of our beloved country; O steadfast people behind the bars of occupation, who are making the dawn of freedom for your great people; O steadfast people in the camps, the villages, and the towns of the mujahid in southern Lebanon; O masses of our people in the homeland, in exile, and the diaspora; O masses of our great nation; O masses of our mujahid Islamic nation. [passage omitted]

Let all Muslims remember that Jerusalem needs today more than any other day a great deal of prayers. [passage omitted]

Brothers and beloved ones, as usual this racist Zionist occupier and usurper enemy has stated its intentional determination to continue its savage crimes. A few days ago it committed a new crime by assassinating a hero among the heroes of the Palestinian revolution: martyr-hero 'Atif Busaysu on 7 June in the French capital. Through the martyrdom of dear 'Atif, the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people have lost a competent combatant and great leader who was in the prime of his national contribution for the sake of his people's legitimate rights.

Let the criminal enemy and its apparatus of killing and terrorism, Mosad, know that the blood of the martyr will not flow unpaid.

Thus, it is our pledge to his pure soul and to the souls of our beloved martyrs that we will continue our march with the Jihad until certain victory, God willing. We are, however, O brothers and beloved ones, all ready for martyrdom along the road to holy Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

It is a requirement of indebtedness, gratitude, appreciation, and affection to extend at these moments profuse thanks and sincere fraternal appreciation to my brother His Majesty King Husayn for the care, generosity, and attention that he surrounded me with and for his special fraternal concern during the temporary health impediment [Ar 'aridh sihhi], that was in the first place a result of the airplane crash last April, and this is what the doctors were following up after the accident.

The fraternal interest expressed by his majesty constitutes a common sincere expression of profound fraternity, the spirit of Arab authenticity, and the unity of fate and objective which binds us, Jordanians and Palestinians, for the sake of our future generations and our Arab rights, foremost holy Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

It is also an occasion to profusely thank all the brothers and friends among the leaders of the states of the world who were keen to follow up [news of my health] and who showed interest, also to all the brothers and friends throughout the homeland, and above all profuse thanks and gratitude to God Almighty for the success of the operation. [passage omitted]

Let us together renew the promise and the pledge and continue the difficult march; sacrifice is the only way to end the occupation and snatch national independence—let us follow it. [passage omitted]

Brothers, beloved ones, all of my family inside Palestine and the Arab nation: During these times, the Palestinian cause is entering a crucial and difficult phase, a period during which all the enemies of Palestine and the Arab nation are gathering all the means of force, maneuver, cunning, and treason. This is in addition to all the means of terrorism, oppression, killing, and confiscation the enemy occupier uses to change the course of events. They also mean to shift the conflict to a new phase of

neglect and oblivion in an attempt to conceal the constants incarnated by the continuous militant march; the current political operation; and the excellent work of our delegation. They also want to benefit from the speedy course of events and development of the new world order; from its numerous allies; from the bias that it still enjoys with them and from them; and also from the busy schedule of some international influencial forces. The current Israeli elections campaign adds to the situation more complexity, seriousness, and bargaining.

Parallel to this, one finds the Arab side characterized by bouts of slackness, rift, and squandering the means of power instead of bringing and organizing them together as an indispensable weapon for everyone's sake, security, and future. Some people from this nation insist on deepening the wound for their own political goals and for practical political steps that they have and are still following. As an example, one could mention what is happening to the remaining Palestinian community in Kuwait and what has been and is still being done to the rights of this large community by some people in Kuwait, as if this is a planned role for and a part of our people's conflict of steadfastness.

If one understands the increasing campaigns of oppression, terrorism, suppression, confiscation, and settlement by the occupier enemy whenever the peace process scores a positive step favoring the Palestinian rights, it is incomprehensible that these crimes against our Palestinian people should continue in some parts of the Arab world, unless this is a practice requested from these people to compel our people to accept the leftovers, as proposed by the supervisors of the new world order.

I wonder: What is the position of the Arab League toward these crimes? What is the position of the Islamic countries toward these crimes? Where are the honorable international friends and brothers? Is the hunger of Gaza and its steadfast inhabitants a part of politics? Is the suffering of our families in the steadfast Bank required for implementing these politics? Are the pains and cruelty of the Israeli prisons without any local or international observers or monitors [necessary?] Is violating the Islamic and Christian sanctities a part of the plan?

In addition, and in spite of all the difficulties, wounds, and sufferings, we reiterate our conviction and belief that it is necessary to restore cohesion, compromise, and spirit to the Arab body, which is not for the sake of one part of us but for the sake of all. In this spirit and with this high feeling of responsibility, the quadipartite meeting occurred between us—Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine as the countries participating in the bilateral negotiations. We were keen to call for widening these meetings to include all the Frontline states, the Arab Maghreb Union countries, and the countries of the Arab east, so that we are able to face up to the developments and challenges at least with the minimum of cohesion, solidarity, and unity. History will not have mercy on anyone, as Jerusalem appeals to you from its prison. [passage omitted]

While I confirm today anew our attachment to the political march and the continued participation in it, we hope that the international community will understand this clear difference between the Palestinian-Arab policy toward peace and what the Israeli occupationists practice to blow up this political process, which is aimed at achieving peace in the Middle East.

At these moments, I turn to the Israeli society that approaches elections within a few days. This is a real opportunity for us and you, for our children and your children. Your votes in these new elections will decide whether your leadership's direction would be toward peace or more wars, victims and destruction on both sides. I tell them all: Your security secures and ensures inasmuch as it gives the Palestinian people its just rights. I say to them: There can be no peace in this land other than the Palestinian peace, the peace based on justice and the implementation of international resolutions and legitimacy, not the peace of usurpation, oppression, occupation, injustice, crimes, and harming Islamic and Christian holy places. A peace for our children and your children.

O kinfolk, all my kinfolk: If Palestinian unity is the fortified reliable shield for Palestinian struggle and Palestinian rights throughtout the age of the revolution, it is today the dry nurse of [word indistinct] and protector of the brilliant Palestinian revolution inside and outside the occupied land.

I address a final and firm appeal to everybody about the issue of liquidations. Such a grave issue dictates to us—as a leadership responsible to God, the people, and history—to hold to account without mercy all those who violate the higher resolutions. No individual or group has the right to usurp the roles and decisions of the judicial and legal cadres, the unified national command, the people's committees, and the committees of ('reform and good).

Brothers and beloved ones, the Israeli crimes have reached a grave level, particularly the criminal and daily violations of Palestinian human rights. [passage omitted] The international community, particularly the United States, is required to immediately commence implementing international legitimacy. On our side, we stress our readiness to immediately commence searching practical and executive steps, including conducting legislative elections according to the Palestinian laws and under international protection during the remaining three months of this period of respite, which was fixed as one year.

This demands that the two sponsors of the conference and the international community should make Israel adhere to the UN Security Council and UN resolutions by providing a suitable atmosphere for the Palestinian people to determine their options freely and democratically.

Brothers and beloved ones, our experience has taught us to be cautious and alert. Once bitten twice shy. Therefore, I call upon you, O my kinfolk, to rally the ranks,

consolidate unity, continue the struggle, and escalate the blessed popular intifadah and the daily total confrontation. Let the usurper-aggressor understand that our people is too difficult to be occupied and oppressed and that the will of our masses will not be undermined or cracked until occupation is removed from every inch of our land and until international legality and resolutions are implemented.

Also, I call upon you, O brothers and beloved ones, to face up to the crimes and the maneuvers of the occupation by being prudent, vigilant, and cautious. We should not sleep on empty promises; rather, we should write our history with glow and fire, with sacrifice and corban, and with sincere jihad. I am here calling on the heroes of the stone: Hunt with your blessed stone, and stone the occupation in the morning and in the afternoon. Let the land shake under the feet of the invaders. This land is Arab and will forever remain Arab. Our flag, the flag of the Arab nation, will be hoisted on the walls of Jerusalem, the minarets of Jerusalem, and the churches of Jerusalem. [passage omitted]

Let us escalate our intifadah. Let us consolidate our public and mass actions. Let us bolster our heroes as they stand in their positions of struggle. Let us bolster our negotiating teams as they carry out their fight in the difficult international negotiating arena. Thanks to them for their fantastic performance and their adherence to the fundamentals that have been approved by our Palestinian National Council. [passage omitted]

Al-Sus—Mosad 'Fingerprints' on Busaysu Murder

AU1006190092 Paris AFP in English 1822 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Paris, June 10 (AFP) — Ibrahim al-Sus, the Palestine Liberation Organization's representative in France, Wednesday reiterated charges that the Israeli intelligence agency Mosad killed a top PLO security officer here Monday.

"From the planning, to the method of execution, to the professionalism with which it was carried out, this assassination bears the Mosad's fingerprints," Souss said in a press statement.

It was the first time Souss directly accused Israeli intelligence in the death of 'Atif Busaysu, killed by three shots to the back of the head fired by two men who accosted him outside a Paris hotel.

"We fear that (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq) Shamir and his Likud party will resort to this type of attack until the elections in order to give a fresh push to" their election effort, said Souss.

Editorial Urges International Help on Gaza Closure

TA1006153992 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 10 Jun 92 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Alleviate Seriously and Truly the Suffering Stemming From the Gaza Strip Closure"]

[Text] The concerned Israeli authorities continue their extremely harsh measures against Gazans who work in various Israeli plants, workshops, farms, and projects. Those authorities recently announced that the Gaza Strip blockade would be removed gradually and in a limited manner, after it had been clamped on tightly for two weeks, but not even a limited and gradual removal has been implemented. The closure has remained almost as it was. With the lifting of the blockade, some 50 laborers were able to cross the Erez checkpoint—compared to the 50,000 laborers who normally leave the Strip's towns, villages, and camps for Israel every morning. The following day the number rose to just 400!

In other words, one out of every 1,000 of our laborers in the Strip was able to earn his livelihood, after a blockade that lasted 14 days. When the situation "improved," that ratio rose to eight out of 1,000!

Does this mean anything other than starving broad sectors of our kinfolk in the Strip? And how can this terrifying notion be sanctioned within the context of international laws, charters, and norms?

The UN Security Council, "on the sidelines of its work," discussed this calamity in the Gaza Strip and expressed its concern following its "marginal discussion." Since that stated concern was not converted into action, what benefit did it have? It actually helped the Israeli Government—directly or indirectly—to continue its arbitrary action against the food and milk of children in our patient and cohesive Strip.

We call on the Security Council and the peace conference's cosponsors, the United States, Russia, and the European countries, to act seriously to alleviate this grave suffering in the Gaza Strip. We need effective action, in accordance with their firm right; they must not simply throw sand into our eyes.

Algeria

'Waves' of Fundamentalists Now Fleeing Country

LD1006174492 Rabat MAP in English 1523 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Algiers, June 10 (MAP)—Waves of Algerian fundamentalists, particularly intellectuals, loyal to the banned Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) are fleeing Algeria towards Europe and the East, said Tuesday the Algerian daily "LA NATION".

About 500 fundamentalists unexpectedly gave up their jobs and left the Algerian territory towards Sweden, Norway, Finland, Sudan or Iraq. Some of them reportedly seized the opportunity of the pilgrimage to apply for political asylum in Saudi Arabia, the daily added. In addition, the recently released detainees "LA NATION" went on, are also wishing to leave the country.

Release of 2,000 More Detainees Announced

LD1006075192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Excerpt] In a communique issued this morning, the Ministry of Interior said that 2,000 detainees from various security centers have been released. This brings the total number of detainees released thus far to over 3,000. The Ministry pointed out that since their appointment, the regional appeal councils have been busy studying the appeals submitted to them and it is possible that their proceedings may allow the release of more detainees in future. [passage omitted]

Egypt

President Mubarak Remarks on Economic Reform

NC0806170492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1449 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Ismailia, 8 Jun (MENA)—Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that President Husni Mubarak's meeting today with his sons, the commanders and officers of the al-Jala' Camp in Ismailia, was clear and frank.

In remarks to journalists following the meeting, the information minister added that Mubarak discussed in detail all aspects of our domestic and foreign policies. He said that the president was eager to answer the soldiers' questions about the economic situation, matters of public opinion, and Egypt's foreign relations.

Mubarak said that economic prosperity is difficult to achieve in any country, even a rich and advanced one. He noted that even rich countries are unable to fully tackle the issue of increasing production enough to handle society's needs and yield a surplus for export. The president said that it requires comprehensive development, patience, [word indistinct], sacrifice, continuous work, and the use of all resources to achieve progress in the political and production fields and manufacture modern technology.

Mubarak pointed out that military conflict has been replaced by economic conflict in the world. Economic development requires job opportunities for every citizen and an acceptable standard of living. We must increase and enhance production to meet society's needs and produce enough surplus for the state to seek out new markets and maintain its foreign presence. This explains the close relationship between political and economic objectives.

The president said: Our desire for economic equilibrium leads us to open markets for our producers and establish relations with foreign countries, which requires political efforts abroad and good foreign relations.

Discussing economic reform, Mubarak said that the Egyptian economy has passed through many stages since the 1940's before the 23 July [1953] revolution. He said that difficult situations have been imposed on Egypt since 1948, including wars and other challenges. Therefore, the infrastructure was not developed or modernized, which had an impact on economic development and progress, because the infrastructure is the basis for development. The president said that the infrastructure has been the focus of economic development in Egypt, adding: We spent around 70 billion pounds on the infrastructure over the past 10 years.

The president gave examples of what has been achieved over the past 10 years. He said that 1.8 million housing units were built during the first and second [five-year development] plans, adding: With our increasing population, we can only imagine the danger to social security if these units had not been built.

The president discussed the development of various utilities. He said: Having these utilities saved us from having to borrow from abroad to improve our infrastructure. It would be impossible to develop these same utilities at the price we paid for them. God's favor was upon us when we succeeded in dropping our military debts and phasing out 50 percent of our civilian debt.

Referring to the agreement with the IMF, Mubarak noted that rectifying the economic system is in Egypt's interests and that the purpose of our agreements with international institutions is to strengthen and liberalize the Egyptian economy in line with Egypt's own concept and philosophy. The president said: There are basic principles we follow that do not contradict our economic reform policy or the liberalization of the economy. Liberalizing the economy does not contradict our policy of protecting local production, which is developing every day and has become able to compete.

Mubarak explained that the economic reform policy is being implemented according to our principles and in line with society's capacity. He stated that the reform policy considers the country's higher interests.

Mubarak reviewed the reform process since he took office and the various solutions and alternatives proposed by economists. He said that most of these solutions and alternatives were harsh. They called for the immediate introduction of a free economy and did not consider the social impact or national security.

Mubarak explained that it is difficult for any country to strike a balance between incomes and prices due to the fluctuating world market. We hope to gradually strike a reasonable and acceptable balance by increasing wages 10 percent annually in addition to periodic allowances.

Mubarak noted that the agreement reached with the IMF is the best program for economic reform and that the various economic decisions that have been made mark the beginning of the program's implementation.

Regarding developing tourism and the idea of attracting more tourists by giving them freedom of movement, Mubarak explained that Egypt is an Islamic country with traditions and rules that must be respected. It is our duty to respect and safeguard Islamic and Christian religious values. Mubarak said we will not allow the minority that wants to undermine our stability and stir up sectarian sedition to harm our society, which harms tourism.

Mubarak said that the media must report about corruption involving public funds and public morals within the framework of safeguarding Egypt's reputation and that of its sons abroad.

Answering a question about the Libyan-Western problem, President Mubarak responded that Egypt is playing its role to solve the problem. Mubarak said we made every effort and made progress toward a meeting [liqa'] of the parties to resolve the problem in the coming days.

Mubarak said that Egypt has been able to find its place in the new world order and win respect for its credibility, honesty, and rejecting terrorism; belief in freedom, democracy, and equality; respect for the Constitution, law, and international legitimacy; and support for just causes.

Mubarak said that relations with Sudan are strong and firm and will remain that way. It is our duty to purify these relations and resolve those remaining issues that are exploited occasionally by those with ulterior motives to stir up trouble. He explained that contacts are continuing to solve the Hala'ib issue. We are eager to solve this problem while maintaining Egypt's rights and sovereignty.

Answering a question about the Damascus Declaration, Mubarak referred to the upcoming meeting of the Damascus Declaration foreign ministers and to the consultations he had last week in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Mubarak stated that Egypt's relations with the Arab states are strong and firm. We continue to exchange views with Arab leaders about all issues.

At the end of the meeting, President Mubarak stated that Egypt is not being used politically or militarily. It is a leader and makes its own decisions, which is how Egypt made the decision to support justice and help liberate Kuwait.

Sidqi: Government Denounces Writer's Assassination

NC1006053492 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 0335 GMT 10 Jun 92

[From the Press Review]

[Text] AL-AHRAM notes Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi's statement that Egypt denounces the crime of Dr. Faraj Fudah's assassination, which, he stated, is not a civilized method to tackle differences in views.

AL-AHRAM cites Interior Minister 'Abd-al-Halim Musa's statement that anyone trying to disturb security and order or create chaos in Egypt will be severely punished.

Police Arrest 50 Islamists in al-Shar[illegible]iyah

Printing Press Seized

NC1006154092 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 7 Jun 92 pp 1, 7

[Text] Yesterday at dawn, the Interior Ministry state security forces uncovered a large religious organization that opposes the system in Egypt and uses al-Sharqiyah Governorate as a playground for its activities. Around 50 of the organization was arrested, and a printing press was seized along with many articles ready to be distributed to citizens during 'Id al-Adha.

State security investigations pointed to a Muslim Brotherhood organization in al-Sharqiyah, which meets in hideouts there and runs a printing press producing articles, the objectives of which are to incite the people and oppose the government. They printed many papers to be distributed during 'Id al-Adha prayers. Interior Minister 'Abd-al-Halim Musa was informed of the situation and asked for a public prosecution search warrant to follow up the incident.

The security forces stormed the organization's headquarters at dawn yesterday, arresting the members, seizing the printing press and articles, and transporting the suspects and seized goods to the state security department public prosecution office in Cairo, which has already started investigations.

Former People's Assembly Member Arrested

NC1106085792 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic 8 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] Security forces arrested the members of a secret organization led by Shaykh 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Rasan, a former member of the People's Assembly, and Agricultural Engineer Sa'd Mursi Lashin.

The members were arrested after Friday prayers in al-Zaqaziq, capital of al-Sharqiyah Governorate. Also seized was a printing press that the organization used to prepare articles to be distributed during 'Id al-Adha prayers to incite action against the system and the law.

The Higher State Prosecution has started interrogating the 50 organization members, ordering their detention for interrogation for 15 days. They were accused of forming a secret organization—the objectives of which are to oppose the country's basic principles—to topple the government by force, to distribute antigovernment publications, and to incite public opinion.

Muslim Brotherhood Official Views Algeria, 'Party'

NC0906111592 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 8 Jun 92 p 48, 49

[Interview with Ma'mun al-Hudaybi, official spokesman of the Muslim Brotherhood by 'Adil Disuqi; date, place not given]

[Text] [Disuqi] Events in Algeria are the principal issue and the start of our interview.
[al-Hudaybi] The situation in Algeria does not need an evaluation. There is a group with foreign connections or that might be driven by foreign circles that has seized power through force and tanks. What is taking place now is the subjugation of the people by force and they are being compelled to accept a regime that so far appears to have no definite identity. Who are the members of the group? What is their influence in the regime? The elections were held in a peaceful and organized way. They were held by the government. The Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] won but the government turned against it, which proves the collapse of the slogans and claims of democracy, freedom, and human rights of many ruling regimes in the Arab world.

[Disuqi] What do you believe are the effects of the situation in Algeria on fundamentalist trends in the Arab world?
[al-Hudaybi] I fear that the voice of violence will take the upper hand in Islamic movements following the failure of the Algerian experiment.

[Disuqi] The rise of the FIS at first revived the Islamic trend in Egypt. What do you say to that?
[al-Hudaybi] The revival had nothing to do with whether the Front won or lost the elections. Why are our rulers afraid? Are they not Muslims and do they not claim to be democrats? We support the freedom of people everywhere and do not accept the tyranny of any ruler, even in non-Islamic countries. Freedom belongs to people who have the right to choose their rulers. Our interest in Algeria's events stems from our interest in the affairs of Muslims more than others.

[Disuqi] Even though the concept of "Islam" in Algeria as an identity and a character differs a lot from other concepts abroad, other religious trends have taken a stronger supportive stand. How do you explain this?
[al-Hudaybi] All Muslims suffer from repression and oppression regardless of their creed. Therefore, the developments in Algeria came as a shock. The ordinary man who used to believe whatever was said against Islamic trends is now reassessing his view after seeing tanks destroy people's freedoms. This is not happening only in Egypt but in all the countries of the Orient suffering from repression, which is why there was this support.

[Disuqi] How does the "Brotherhood" deal with the concept of the "conflict with Israel" in light of the current changes and what is meant by the current "peace negotiations?"
[al-Hudaybi] We said right from the start that this conference is only aiming at burying the Palestinian issue, closing its file, and erasing the word Palestine from the world map. This is what is happening now. We were talking about establishing just peace in return for land but the talk is about peace in return for peace. Israel will not relinquish a single inch of the occupied Arab territories. There is no such thing as a new world order but a new reality that is nothing but U.S. control and hegemony backed by the Western countries. Other countries such as Japan cannot face a military confrontation.

[Disuqi] It is said that the Gulf war, which had many negative consequences, presented the religious trend as a unique example of hostility to the West. What is your opinion?
[al-Hudaybi] We realized the gravity of this war right from the beginning. We opposed the U.S. intervention while strongly denouncing the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. We persistently called for the withdrawal of the invading forces from Kuwait. At the same time, we saw that the U.S. military machine wanted to destroy Arab strength, seize Arab resources, and enable Zionism to impose its hegemony on the region. That is happening right now.

[Disuqi] The Supreme Administrative Court has turned down your appeal to the decision issued in January 1954 dissolving the Muslim Brotherhood. How will this affect the Brotherhood's activity?
[al-Hudaybi] The Revolution Command Council's decision has been abrogated and amended. Proof of this is the fact that the Brotherhood's building was given back to the group and the group was allowed to operate and issue its newspaper. The government itself presented a memorandum to the court saying that a decision to this effect was issued on 28 December 1954. Therefore, the initial dissolution decision has been amended, so how could it still be applicable and "fortified?" This is why we filed a motion challenging the court's verdict.

[Disuqi] Should a verdict be issued approving the return of the group, would this be the first step toward establishing the "Brotherhood Party?"
[al-Hudaybi] We, as a group, have our own background, program, and entity that go back 60 years. It is easy for us to apply for the establishment of a party, but we have our own philosophy on this issue and are awaiting the appropriate time. This is because the president himself expressed his

opposition to the establishment of a party of our own on the grounds that we are a religious party. But this is not true because we are a secular [madani] party with secular members. We are not a religious sect calling ourselves a religious party. We demand that the Constitution's reference to Islam as the state's official religion be applied. Second, we do not demand a religious government, but a secular government that is committed to applying the provisions of Islamic Shari'ah.

[Dsuqi] The Brotherhood is accused of shifting among too many Egyptian parties.

[al-Hudaybi] This is not true. We never shifted; they came to us. We never had an alliance with the Wafd Party in 1984, as was said at the time. We made an agreement to have some places for us on its election list. The Wafd benefited from the Brotherhood's popularity, but there was never any meeting between the Brotherhood's leadership and the Wafd to discuss specific policies or activity. The Brotherhood's deputies used to meet separately to discuss issues and they spoke in the name of the Brotherhood in the People's Assembly.

[Dsuqi] What about the Labor Party?

[al-Hudaybi] We made an alliance in 1987, but we both remained independent entities and we never merged with the Labor Party. The group exists on its own and has a presence and leaders who run its affairs and make its decisions. The alliance was made on the basis that we both call for the implementation of the principles of Islamic Shari'ah.

[Dsuqi] It is being said that there are differences between the Brotherhood and the Labor Party because of AL-SHA'B chief editor 'Adil Husayn's articles on the Iranian model in Egypt and his relations with Sudan's Hasan al-Turabi.

[al-Hudaybi] This is not true because there was no agreement on matters of jurisprudence or a difference in view over a specific point of jurisprudence. They had their own views and orientation, which we knew from the start. As for what is being said that the AL-SHA'B chief editor is promoting the Iranian model, this is an untrue allegation because the Iranian model does not suit us and it cannot fare well with the Sunnis. As for Hasan al-Turabi, he follows a different route. He believes that change comes through power, while we believe that the Islamic government is a natural heritage, which could bring about such a government. Thus, there is a difference between us in terms of style, method, and some origins of jurisprudence, but there is no animosity between us and we wish him success.

[Dsuqi] What is your view on the issue of the "grand design"?

[al-Hudaybi] The grand design we believe in is Islam. We do not call for backwardness, but for civilization and for taking interest in all earthly matters. Islam was the first to mention this. It is a religion of reason, logic, and thinking. We welcome such a grand design if it is based on Islamic foundations.

'Egyptian Committee for National Unity' Formed

NC0806131592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0943 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jun (MENA)—A number of Egyptian writers, university professors, artists, journalists, intellectuals, businessmen, and unionists decided to form "The Egyptian Committee for National Unity" [al-lajnah al-misriyah li al-wihdah al-wataniyah]. It is a nongovernmental, public committee that seeks to defend the homeland's unity and create a general Egyptian climate appropriate for the country's noble heritage based on the Egyptian consensus to defend the homeland's unity. The committee's sole objective is to defend the unity of Egypt and its sons, regardless of their religion or beliefs.

The founders believe that it is necessary to carry out intensive, planned, and continual public and governmental efforts to avoid all negative developments that might affect the progress of national unity and to give the country new impetus. This is an effort requiring every Egyptian's participation.

The founders of the Egyptian Committee for National Unity call on all Egyptians—Muslims and Copts, of all political and social affiliations, in every place, every profession, city, and village—to cooperate in confronting everything that might provoke sectarian conflicts or harm national unity.

Among the committee's founders are: Ahmad al-Khawajah, president of the Lawyers Association; Makram Muhammad Ahmad, president of the Journalists Union; Dr. Hamdi al-Sayyid, president of the Doctors' Union; al-Sayyid Rashid, chairman of the Egyptian General Labor Federation; Dr. Ahmad al-Ghandur, dean of the School of Economics and Political Sciences at Cairo University; and Dr. 'Ali al-Din Hilal, director of the Political Studies and Research Center at Cairo University.

Also among the founders are the artists Fatin Hamamah, 'Adil Imam, and Nur al-Sharif; the writers Usamah Anwar 'Ukashah and Aminah al-Sa'id; Professor Aminah Shafiq; Dr. Milad Hanna; Dr. Yunan Labib Rizq; Professor Khalid Muhammad Khalid; Dr. Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the People's Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee; former Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali; former Interior Minister Hasan Abu-Basha; Professor Munir Fakhri 'Abd-al-Nur; Dr. William Sulayman Qiladah; Dr. Faraj Fuda; Dr. 'Abd-al-'Azim Ramadan; Professor Rif'at al-Sa'id; Professor Jamal Badawi; Dr. Ibrahim Dsuki Abazah; Professor Anton Sidhum; Dr. Farkhandah Hasan; and Counselor Muhammad Sa'id al-'Ashma'wi.

'Limited Ministerial Reshuffle' Forecast

NC0806125192 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 4 Jun 92 p 1

[Unattributed report]

[Text] News circulated lately talks of a limited ministerial reshuffle following the ongoing Consultative Council elections. The prospected reshuffle aims to clear and eliminate the differences persisting between Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi and certain ministers. Reports circulated within the National Democratic Party affirm that differences between the prime minister and several ministers have worsened and reached a impasse, thus affecting the work of the Council of Ministers and ministerial committees.

The prime minister was careful to attend the People's Assembly's meetings last week to explain the philosophy behind the government-sponsored draft laws, particularly the banks and royalties laws. The prime minister was accompanied during these meetings by ministers who are considered close to him. They are: the ministers of economy, administrative development, and international cooperation, in addition to Counselor Ahmad Radwan, minister at the Council of Ministers.

Prisoners To Be Pardoned on 'Id al-Adha

NC0906194392 Cairo MENA in English 1550 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, Jun 9 (MENA)—Some 1,500 prisoners, who have served half their time, will be pardoned on the occasion of the advent of the Muslim holy greater bairam ['Id al-Adha].

Major General 'Abd-al-Ra'uf Salih, Prisons' Department director, said that the amnesty would not cover prisoners convicted in cases of terrorism, drugs, or vice.

Salih added that for the first time in ten years prisoners suffering from serious diseases, and who need special family care, would be released.

Prison inmates will be served an extra meal of corban meat and will be guests at a number of entertainment programmes prepared for the occasion, he said.

Mubarak Message Praises Afghan People's 'Triumph'

NC0906142892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1309 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Kabul, 9 Jun (MENA)—The Afghan leadership today received a message from President Husni Mubarak in which he praised the triumph of the Afghan people's free will. The message was delivered to the Afghan leadership by Assistant Foreign Minister Ambassador Mukhlis Jubbah, who is currently visiting Kabul. [passage omitted]

Daily Accuses Israeli Mosad for Busaysu Murder

NC1106073092 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Cairo, 11 Jun (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR today accuses Israeli intelligence, the Mosad, of assassinating Palestinian leader 'Atif Busaysu in Paris. The paper says that this organization performs its crimes to provide new evidence that Israel still prefers using the system of Mafia gangs and the like to carry out its designs of liquidating its enemies wherever they may be.

In its editorial today, the paper adds that despite the passage of 44 years, during which the racist Jewish state wore the gown of a civilized government, this state continues to use treachery and terrorism, methods used during the first years of its birth.

AL-AKHBAR says: It seems that the situation will continue this way as long as the gang leaders of Stern and Irgun Zvi Le'umi manage Israel's affairs.

The paper warns of what lurks behind this kind of Israeli scheming, which targets liquidating anything that belongs to the PLO, which in turn persists in its struggle to retrieve the usurped rights of the Palestinian people.

Concluding its editorial, AL-AKHBAR says: If it is true that the U.S. Administration is now occupied with the U.S. presidential elections due to take place in November, this should not prevent U.S. officials from finding the time to declare their opinion on the policy of terrorism and assassination that their ally, the state of Israel, has adopted as a firm and inalienable moto.

Tunisian Official Meets Musa, Mubarak, Departs

NC0906153792

[Editorial Report] Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1155 GMT on 7 June reports that Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa met in Cairo with Sadok Fayala, described as the Tunisian secretary of state for African affairs.

MENA reports: "After the meeting, the Tunisian minister said that he and Musa discussed international issues of common concern, especially African issues. He said that the talks come under the general framework of Egyptian-Tunisian consultation and coordination.

"They reviewed the issues to be discussed at the next African summit, scheduled for late June in the Senegalese capital of Dakar, especially the issue of changing the OAU Charter," the agency continues. "They also discussed developments in southern Africa, the problems in the Horn of Africa, and Arab-African cooperation.

MENA adds: "Fayala said Egypt and Tunisia must cultivate ties with African states and play a role in solving Africa's problems, especially in development and the peaceful settlement of disputes. He stressed the importance of strengthening Arab-African cooperation on all levels in view of our common future. He said that this cooperation must be realistic and compatible with the new world order."

At 1155 GMT on 9 June, MENA reports on an interview with Fayala, in which he described his talks with Musa and other Egyptian officials as very good.

The agency reports that Fayala discussed the status of the Arab Maghreb Union [UMA]: "The Tunisian secretary of state said that the UMA is in a state of recess because of the current difficult circumstances in the region. These difficulties will soon be resolved and the UMA's role in the region will be entrenched. He predicted that the UMA will soon witness a resurgence. It embodies the views of the region toward international economic developments. He said that the development of regional groupings is the way to confront economic challenges. In conclusion, Fayala expressed his belief that the UMA is making positive and tangible steps, which guarantees the success of group action."

At 1215 GMT on 9 June, MENA reports that Fayala left Cairo "this afternoon."

Libya

Paper Series To Expose 'Reality' of Arab World

NC1006115892 Paris AFP in English 1150 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Nicosia, June 10 (AFP)—A Libyan newspaper Wednesday carried a fresh report critical of "the Arabist and Islamicist" policies of Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The official JANA news agency in a dispatch received here said a critical pamphlet, published by the newspaper Al-JAMAHIRIYAH, was the first in a series of articles aimed at "exposing the reality" of the Arab world.

Addressing al-Qadhdhafi by name, the AL-JAMAHIRIYAH text said: "Allow us to reject your convictions...You are free to remain attached to your Arabism and your Islam.

"As for us we are not ready to allow ourselves to be deceived and to lie to the masses."

AL-JAMAHIRIYAH on Tuesday issued similar criticism of the Libyan leader.

Al-Qadhdhafi 'Ploys' Seen

NC1006193392 London MBC Television in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] The Libyan AL-JAMAHIRIYAH newspaper today held Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi responsible for the air blockade imposed on Libya. The paper warned him that the Libyan people will not follow him if he pursues his current policy on Arabs and Muslims.

But Muhammd al-Muqaryif, secretary general of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya, said that what was published in the newspaper was one of al-Qadhdhafi's ploys.

For the first time since Colonel al-Qadhdhafi assumed the leadership of Libya, AL-JAMAHIRIYAH newspaper called for dealing with the one who can achieve Libya's interests, be he Chinese or American. Addressing Colonel al-Qadhdhafi without naming him, the paper said: Your are chasing a mirage, but we will not chase it with you this time.

The Libyan opposition, however, says that al-Qadhdhafi himself thought up this article in order to break loose of the Arabs and Muslims in the name of the Libyan people.

[Begin al-Muqaryif recording] This is al-Qadhdhafi's own making and is one of his ploys and tricks. Through this he seeks to accomplish several objectives, one of the most important of which is to shift the battle between him and the Libyan people to another area. We know that the battle between al-Qadhdhafi and the Libyan people revolves around the Libyan Constitution and what al-Qadhdhafi did with this Constitution. [end recording]

Dr. al-Muqaryif accused al-Qadhdhafi of hindering the Libyans' plans to perform the pilgrimage to God's inviolable house [Mecca].

[Begin al-Muqaryif recording] This is not the first time al- Qadhdhafi has attempted to hamper the Libyans' efforts to perform the pilgrimage. It is known that in many of his speeches he frankly has asked the Libyans not to perform the pilgrimage. He used various methods to block their pilgrimage. For example, he imposed special high taxes on any one wishing to perform the pilgrimage. Even more harmful, in one of his speeches—which we have on tape, for your information—al-Qadhdhafi literally says that al-Ka'bah [Islamic shrine in Mecca] is an idol. Despite the UN Security Council resolutions, Libyans who wish to perform the pilgrimage could do so if al-Qadhdhafi allowed it. They could go by land, sea or air. [end recording]

In any case, some aspects of Libyan politics have begun to change.

'Thousands' in Tripoli Protest Hajj Restrictions

LD1006163192 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Excerpts] The voices of anger were rising today when further thousands took to the streets in the Great Jamahiriyah in a vehement demonstration in protest against the decision of the Christian group in the Security Council preventing Libyan pilgrims from discharging the ordinance of Hajj. At the same time the sit-in of the pligrims before the Saudi embassy in Tripoli has continued for the third consecutive day. Placards and slogans were hoisted reflecting the sentiments of anger and denunciation. Among the slogans were "No submission and no subjugation except to God," "We are astonished that a Muslim stands by the side of the infidels in harming the faith," "We worship Allah as He ordered," and "The Kaaba is the House of God."

The demonstrators reiterated slogans which calling for placing the sacred places under religious sponsorship unconnected to power, politics, and worldly fluctuations, and for all restrictions on the performance of religious rites by the Muslims to be eliminated.

The angry demonstration released the following statement:

[begin recording of unidentified man] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. [passage omitted] Brothers, in 1986, the Arab Muslim people in the Great Jamahiriyah were subjected to a barbaric and vicious aggression perpetrated by the despotic U.S. Administration and its collaborators, to which tens of innocent, unarmed children, women, and elderly fell victim. The homes of peaceful citizens and public installations were destroyed. What did these citizens do? What was their crime for them to [words indistinct] (?evil) and death from overseas and far afield to drop tonnes of bombs on their heads while they were asleep? Was it because they had decided that the Koran was the shari'ah of society? Or was it because they had decided to live as masters and free on their land? Was it because they had revived the (?role) of Islam and the justice of Islam? Was it because they had decided that power be in the hands of the people that decides what it wants? [passage omitted]

Was it because they rejected capitulationist solutions and refused to abandon Arab rights, and called for the liberation of all the Arab Palestinian land? Was it because they urged the Islamic world to rise in order to revive the glories of Islam, and to retrieve its leading pioneering role? Was it because they urged the Arabs to secure unity in order to protect the Arab land and the freedom of the Arab world? [passage omitted]

Yes, brothers in Islam. These were the causes of the aggression, and this was the crime of this struggling Muslim people. For this reason, the crusading forces of evil and destruction assailed the Muslim people of the Jamahiriyah, after falsely claiming that the Jamahiriyah was behind the explosion in a bar in Berlin. [passage omitted]

The tragedy is now being repeated, and the same sinful crusader comes, who bears most enmity to the believers. He comes up with false reports, and he finds listening ears among those who were warned by God, who said: Ascertain, lest you harm people unwittingly, and afterwards become full of repentance for what you have done.

The rancorous crusading West found an occasion to violate everything sacred to mankind, and especially to Muslims: It engages in tarnishing the Islamic shari'a, and injures the feelings of Muslims wherever they are. It violates their rites and sanctities.

Matters have reached this extent of encroachment, and here are the columns of the crusade campaign standing between us and the sacred House of God, and we are prevented from performing the duty of pilgrimage and rites of minor pilgrimage, unless we get permission from those who want to extinguish the light of God, and this is what we reject.

Do our brothers in Arabism and Islam realize the dimensions of the conspiracy? And you, brother, who are in the House of God, do you realize of the rancorous crusading alliance against your Muslim Arab brothers in the Great Jamahiriyah, and even against pan-Arabism and Islam, and the evil harbored by this alliance? [passage omitted]

Will the prayers for forgiveness [made to God by pilgrims in Mecca during the Hajj days] become calls for jihad and fighting so that the sacred precinct of Mecca may echo the call of the believers: No to the NATO resolutions! No to the resolutions of the unjust Security Council! No to bringing the two holy places under the control of political decisions that change according to worldly interests! We stoop only to God, and we submit only to him! God is great. God is great.

Let us uproot tyranny, and let us destroy aggression. God is great. Let borders be destroyed [between Arab countries]. God is great. Let efforts be united to confront the Jews and the collaborators of the Jews. God said: In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate: And incline not to those who do wrong, or the fire will seize you, and you have no protection other than God, nor shall you be helped. God tells the truth.

This is the statement from the masses of the Arab Libyan pilgrims who are prevented from pilgrimage this year, and who are staging a sit-in outside the Saudi embassy. Done in Tripoli, the Great Jamahiriyah, 10 June 1991. [end recording] [speaker is frequently interrupted throughout as crowd chants "God is great" and other religious slogans]

Sudan

Egypt Asked To Halt Opposition Activity in Cairo

NC1006154992 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 9 Jun 92 p 1

['Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar report]

[Text] The Sudanese Government has officially asked Egypt to stop all Sudanese opposition activities in Cairo during the coming period. Muhammad 'Ali 'Uthman Yasin, Sudanese Foreign Ministry first under secretary, has said that the Joint Information and Security Committee has discussed this issue.

In exclusive statements, the Sudanese official said that the Joint Egyptian-Sudanese Committee, which is tasked with discussing the Hala'ib issue, did not discuss any solutions for the issue during its meeting in Khartoum in April. He noted that his country has prepared legal, historical, and technical studies and proposals containing Sudan's viewpoint, which will be discussed during the joint committee's meeting in Cairo by the end of June.

In his statements, the Sudanese official said the committee did not touch on the issue of using Hala'ib as a region for joint investment by Egypt and Sudan. He said relations between Khartoum and Cairo have improved. He stressed the need for eliminating fears and clearing the air so that relations can return to normal. He noted that implementation of the $350-million trade cooperation protocol between Egypt and Sudan has begun.

The Sudanese official met with Egyptian officials, including Dr. Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, during his visit to Cairo.

Editor Resigns, Protesting Anti-Saudi Campaign

PM1006104992 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 6 Jun 92 p 1

[Unattributed "exclusive" report: "Head of Official Sudanese Paper AL-INQADH Resigns in Protest at Regime's Practices"]

[Excerpts] Khartoum—Muhyi al-Din Taytawi, chairman of the board of directors of the Sudanese newspaper AL-INQADH, submitted his resignation the day before yesterday in protest at the Sudanese regime's current policies.

In his letter of resignation to the information minister, Taytawi said that he categorically rejects the campaign of lies and false accusations launched by al-Bashir's government against some brothers who have supported and continue to support the Sudanese people.

He also said in his letter of resignation that every Sudanese citizen is fully aware that the fabrications made by al-Bashir's regime against the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for which the Sudanese people harbor every respect and appreciation, are false. [passage omitted]

'UKAZ has learned from sources in the Sudanese capital that the Sudanese information minister has accepted the resignation and that it will be announced tomorrow or the day after but will be portrayed as dismissal of al-Taytawi from his post without any reference to the resignation or its causes. [passage omitted]

Plan To Assassinate Saddam Discovered, Foiled

PM1006104392 London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 9 Jun 92 p 6

[Ibrahim Khalid 'Asi report: "Opposition Leader Reveals Plan To Assassinate Saddam"]

[Excerpt] Riyadh, Washington—An Iraqi opposition leader has revealed to SAWT AL-KUWAYT that the head of the Iraqi regime, Saddam Husayn, recently embarked on dismissing about 3,200 officers on charges of taking part in an attempted coup against him.

In an exclusive statement yesterday he pointed out that a definite plan to assassinate Saddam and rid the Iraqi people of his crimes was intended to take place during the ceremony marking the completion of al-Jumhuriyah Bridge last week, but the regime's organs uncovered the intended assassination plan at the last moment.

The Iraqi opposition official pointed out that the unarmed Iraqi people are still exposed to tormenting tragedies at the hands of their oppressive ruler, and the sword of terror, oppression, and sabotage is still being used against the sons of Iraq. The treacherous clique still controls the country's destinies through the logic of a gang that violates all local and international traditions and laws, contemptibly defying the people's will and higher interests, and exposing the homeland to the threats of partition, fragmentation, and ruin. The Iraqi official said that the pressures to which our unarmed people are exposed have been confronted by numerous serious attempts at rebellion. Baghdad University students staged a sit-in in some faculties, specifically those in the al-Jadiriyah area, where they staged a large-scale strike that resulted in the arrest of many students.

Concluding his statement, the Iraqi oppositionist told SAWT AL-KUWAYT that the leaderships opposed to Saddam Husayn will continue their struggle to serve the people, the homeland, and all the noble values in which Iraq believed, that is, in isolation from any personal ambitions or selfish objectives, but through absolute self-denial. The aim is to participate with the rest of Iraq's patriotic sons, who are enthusiastic about protecting the kinfolk's honor, in uniting efforts to implement the national salvation process represented by toppling Saddam Husayn's regime, and establish an alternative national regime that sincerely reflects the Iraqi people's aspirations to live in security, freedom, and peace, whether with neighboring states or with the international community. [passage omitted]

BABIL on Opposition Meeting in Vienna 16-19 Jun

JN1006134592 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 8 Jun 92 pp 1, 7

[Unattributed report: "Austria—Iraqi Opposition Convenes Conference"]

[Text] The Iraqi National Congress [al-mu'tamar al-watani al-'iraqi] issued a statement in London on Friday announcing that a conference made up of renegade groups will be held in Vienna, Austria, June 16-19. The meeting, which will be convened on the initiative of the Europe-based Iraqi opposition's joint action committee, was scheduled to be held in March, but was postponed twice.

The statement adds that the meeting's agenda includes the election of a new executive committee and "drafting a plan to terminate Saddam Husayn's regime" and replace it with a "parliamentary, democratic, and constitutional government in Iraq."

The statement adds that the "popular revolts" of 1991 have shown the "illegitimacy" of the current Iraqi regime and that the conference "will help express the Iraqi people's desire to have a government that represent them."

The statement points out that the conference will be attended by Arab nationalists, liberal democrats, and Islamic parties, as well as the Democratic Party of Kurdistan, led by the moderate Mas'ud Barzani, and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, led by Jalal Talabani.

Neither Barzani's party nor the party of hard-liner Talabani were able to win outright victory in elections conducted in the areas controlled by the peshmergas despite Baghdad's 19 May rejection of the elections for a leader and parliament for Iraqi Kurdistan.

There are some 40 opposition movements against President Saddam Husayn's regime based in Damascus, Riyadh, Tehran, London, and Iraq, particularly in Kurdistan.

Kurdish Radio Reports Conference

NC1006184192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Kurdistan Revolution Radio in Arabic 1700 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] The Iraqi national conference, in which all factions of the Iraqi opposition will take part, will convene in Vienna 16-17 June. The preparatory committee of the conference has invited brother Sami 'Abd-al-Rahman, secretary general of our party [People's Democratic Party of Kurdistan], to participate in the conference.

Discussion and approval of the following points is on the agenda: the political report, constitutional and economic documents, the Kurdish national cause, human rights in Iraq, and the papers on developing national action. The conference also will elect the various bodies which are to originate from the conference.

Our radio does not yet know whether Sami 'Abd-al-Rahman will participate in the conference.

*Regime Reportedly Sells 50 Tons of Gold

92P40202A London SAWT AL-KUWAYT AL-DUWALI in Arabic 4 Jun 92 pp 1,6

[Text] French economic sources were inclined yesterday to say that the cause of a worldwide drop in the price of gold in the past few days was the sale of 50 tons of gold

reserves by the Iraqi regime. These sources stated that this had an adverse effect on the purchasing power of the Iraqi dinar and caused increased inflation, which is incompatible with Iraqi foreign trade transactions.

The French economic publication LE TRIBUNE wrote that the international stock exchange workers were puzzled last week over the increase in gold offerings for sale and could not find an explanation for the sudden drop in the price of an ounce of gold in London markets from $370 to $336.85 at the beginning of this month.

The newspaper said that the total value of gold sold in the black market amounted to almost $541 million. The French sources stated that this flagrant breach of the economic embargo by the Iraqi regime was carried out by agents outside of Iraq and from a "secret gold warehouse" somewhere in one of the Western countries and it is unlikely that Baghdad could have transferred such a volume of gold from inside of Iraq due to difficulties imposed by the embargo. The same sources believe that what led Iraqi authorities to sell this much gold is their refusal to sell part of their oil under the conditions set by the United Nations. This caused them to become reckless with hard currency and also led to the expansion of their foreign debt resulting from the purchase of basic commodities. Furthermore, they are concerned that the lack of basic items could lead to a dangerous reaction from its citizens and this would lead to more internal upheavals.

These sources added that Iraqi citizens have lost trust in the regime's economic policy which seriously worsened the crisis in their lives. Because of this, for some time now, many Iraqis have been selling their jewelry through agents in Jordan and Ankara in order to buy items of basic necessity.

Ministry Criticizes Saudi 'Abuses' of Pilgrims

JN1006162292 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1434 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jun (INA)—The Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs has called on the executive councils of its counterparts in Muslim countries to look into the mishandling of pilgrim afairs by Saudi authorities and their dereliction of their duties on more than one occasion.

This came in a statement addressed by the ministry to Islamic organizations, unions, personalities, ministers of awqaf in Muslim nations, and Muslim preachers. It urged a condemnation of these criminal acts and that 'Id al-Adha sermons be devoted to exposing the abuses of Al Sa'ud family. By virtue of their mismanagement of pilgrim affairs, the statement added, the Al Sa'ud family thus forfeits the legitimacy they claim for themselves.

The statement appealed to pilgrims assembled in Mina and 'Arafat [holy sites which pilgrims must visit] to speak out against these criminal acts as a desecration of the pilgrimage.

The statement reviewed the shameful, arbitrary measures taken by the Saudi authorities against Iraqi pilgrims, breaching divine laws and Islamic precepts.

Calls for Conference on 'Mistreatment'

JN1006200392 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1927 GMT 10 Jun 92

[text] Baghdad, 10 Jun (INA)—Iraq today called for ministers of awqaf in Muslim countries to convene an urgent session to consider the excesses against and inhuman treatment of Iraqi pilgrims by the Saudi authorities. It was proposed that the session be held in an Arab or Muslim country that was not involved in the 30-state aggression against Iraq—Malaysia, Indonesia, Libya, or Jordan.

The call came in a letter sent by 'Abdallah Fadil, minister of awqaf and religious affairs, to his counterparts in Muslim countries. It said: We were suprised by the coercive and disgraceful treatment of our pilgrims by Saudi authorities—decidedly non-Islamic treatment that shows their protestations of looking after the pilgrims to be lies.

He added that Iraqi pilgrims were subjected to many insults. They were first besieged at the Iraqi-Saudi border point of 'Ar'ar, denied means of comfort, including food and water, for three days under the pretext that they are verifying their identity cards, as if they were prisoners. They were also frequently subjected to thorough and comprehensive searches to harm and terrorize them. Further, they were detained in the desert away from holy Medina for five days. There was no reason that required their detention in camps that lacked means of comfort, causing many of them to suffer from sunstroke.

Delegate to Geneva Denies Seeking Nuclear Weapon

JN1006204492 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Geneva, 10 Jun (INA)—Iraq has said that the interpretations, allegations, and fabrications regarding Iraq's arms programs are all wrong, fabricated, or exaggerated, and that the Iraqi Government had earlier asserted, and it now asserts once more, that Iraq has absolutely not sought to possess nuclear weapons.

In a speech at a disarmament conference, which is currently being held in Geneva, Dr. Hamid Sa'id al-Musawi, head of the Iraqi delegation, said that the political leadership in Iraq has never made a decision to devote research work by specialized Iraqi scientists in the nuclear field toward manufacturing any form of nuclear weapons.

He explained that the unjust military aggression against Iraq had used bombs equal to seven nuclear bombs of the kind that hit Hiroshima.

The head of the Iraqi delegation affirmed that the United States and Britain used many internationally-banned weapons, including bombs of enriched uranium U-238, which contains chemical poisions and radioactive agents and which threatens large-scale human and environmental disasters.

The head of the Iraqi delegation added that after this systematic destruction of Iraq's infrastructure and its civilian facilities, Security Council Resolution No. 687 came under the heading of a cease-fire in order to add measures and impose conditions on Iraq that were unprecedented in the history of the international organization.

The head of the Iraqi delegation noted that despite Iraq's cooperation with the UN teams to accomplish their missions, the influential countries in the Security Council, particularly the United States and Britain, insist on casting doubts about Iraq's stand.

He said: We hope that the lessons learned from the previous stage will help overcome the manifestations of arbitrary conduct, narrow interests, and premeditated political intentions followed by some countries in implementing the international resolutions on armament regardless of the body which issues these resolutions or the mechanism in accordance with which they are implemented.

U.S. Warplane 'Violations' Denounced to UN

JN1106084292 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0736 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] New York, 11 Jun (INA)—Iraq has denounced the continued violation of its airspace by U.S. warplanes for purposes of surveillance and provocation.

A memorandum addressed by Iraq to UN Secretary General Dr. Butrus-Ghali notes that U.S. warplanes violated Iraq's airspace 103 times during the 3-9 June period. The memorandum indicates that the activity of the warplanes centered over the Mosul, Irbil, Dahuk, Tall 'Afar, Sinjar, Zakho, al-'Amadiyah, 'Ayn Zalah, and Rawandoz areas.

The memorandum also notes that on 7 June one of the U.S. warplanes dropped a flare [mish'al nari] over agricultural land in the Bakhaira area, where the wheat harvest is taking place, but this did not cause any fires.

Iranian Cease-Fire 'Violations' Protested to UN

JN1106100392 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] New York, 11 Jun (INA)—Yesterday, Iraq protested to the United Nations about Iran's violations of the provisions of the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran.

The INA correspondent in New York said that this protest came in a memorandum Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations had addressed to the UN secretary general. The memorandum notes that Iranian military gunboats committed an aggression against Iraqi fishermen for the second time on 18 May when an Iranian gunboat towed an Iraqi fishing boat in the al-Faw promontory area on the pretext that it had crossed the border between the two countries. The Iranian gunboat crew seized the Iraqi boat's load of fish.

The memorandum adds: This act of piracy cannot be considered anything but a flagrant Iranian violation to be added to its past violations of the cease-fire between the two countries. It proves anew the Iranian Government's determination to encroach on Iraq's sovereignty and security, and its lack of desire to achieve a genuine peace between the two countries.

The memorandum stresses the need to take measures, in accordance with the principles of the UN Charter, to stop these Iranian cease-fire excesses and to guarantee that they will not occur in the future in order to maintain peace and security in the region.

'Aziz Meets Ecuadoran, Algerian Ministers in Rio

JN1006163892 Baghdad INA in English 1530 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, June 10, INA—Iraq's Deputy Premier Tariq 'Aziz met here today the foreign minister of Ecuador.

Mr 'Aziz explained Iraq's total cooperation with the Security Council in implementing all basic items listed in the Resolution 687 despite it is unjust, expressing regret because this cooperation is unilateral (from Iraq), while the United States, Britain and France insist on keeping the blockade contrary to the U.N. Charter and the Resolution 687 itself.

Mr 'Aziz voiced once again Iraq's preparendess to cooperate with the Security Council if it showed seriousness in lifting this inequitable blockade.

On the other hand, Mr 'Aziz met Algerian Foreign Minister Lakhdar Brahimi and reviewed bilateral ties and Iraq's relations with the Security Council.

The Algerian minister confirmed that his country is always against the anti-Iraq blockade, and its country through its regional and international contacts confirmed to differentiate between the political problems and keeping the blockade.

The two officials also reviewed the developments in the Arab homeland and the Middle East.

Al-Zubaydi Confers With Sudanese Minister 6 Jun

JN0606140992 Baghdad INA in English 1305 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, June 6, INA—Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Iraq Mr Muhammad Hamzah al-Zubaydi received today the Sudanese Minister of Higher Education and scientific research Ibrahim al-'Umar.

The Sudanese guest expressed pleasure over Iraq's magnificent steadfastness against the unjust blockade and admiration of the reconstruction campaign besides Sudan's stand by their brothers the Iraqis against the American-Zionist aggression and its conspiratorial plans against the Arab nation.

The prime minister conveyed Iraq's gratitude for Sudan's Government and people stand and appreciation of that attitude. The meeting was attended by Iraq's Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hashimi and Sudan's ambassador in Baghdad.

Minister Signs Agreement, Departs

JN0706120392 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1137 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jun (INA)—Dr. Ibrahim Ahmad 'Umar, Sudanese minister of higher education and scientific research, left Baghdad for his country today following a visit of several days to Iraq.

During his visit, the guest minister was briefed on Iraqi universities and the development they have witnessed under the glorious 17-30 July Revolution.

'Umar signed an agreement for scientific cooperation with his Iraqi counterpart, Dr. 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Hashimi. He also witnessed the destruction left by the treacherous U.S.-led 30-state aggression against Iraq and which did not spare any area in the country or any civilian, scientific, and economic installations.

The minister expressed admiration for Iraq's reconstruction drive, confrontation of the chapter of treachery and treason, and its steadfastness in the face of the unjust blockade imposed on its proud people.

UN Agreement To Eradicate Rinderpest Signed

JN0706165892 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1500 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jun (INA)—Iraq and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization [FAO] have signed an agreement to eradicate rinderpest.

The agreement provides for coordination and cooperation among five neighboring countries—namely, Iraq, Turkey, Iran, Syria, and Lebanon—to contribute toward the eradication of this pest. It also calls for an exchange of expertise and resources among these countries through the FAO to bring this dangerous pest under control. While Iraq is "clear" of this pest, a neighboring country is now suffering from it.

The agreement was signed on behalf of Iraq by Muwaffaq Ilyas Khadr, under secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture. For the FAO, the agreement was signed by Faruq al-Dasuqi, director of the FAO Baghdad office.

Minister Receives Outgoing Philippine Ambassador

JN0706194392 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Jun (INA)—Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn met with Philippine Ambassador to Iraq Akmad A. Sakkam today at the end of his term in office.

During the meeting, they discussed the existing friendly bilateral ties and ways to enhance them in the interest of the friendly peoples of Iraq and the Philippines.

The foreign minister asked the Philippine ambassador to convey his greetings to his Philippine counterpart, as well as his wishes for the further enhancement of bilateral ties.

BABIL Ridicules Saudi-Iranian Rapprochement

JN1006163192 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic 8 Jun 92 p 1

[Article by AL-JUMHURIYAH Chief Editor Sa'd al-Bazzaz: "The Cloaks"]

[Text] The Saudis and Iranians have finally discovered that they are brothers; that their revile for each other was actually the highest expression of love; and that their plots against each other were similar to a game of chess by which the two sides were amusing themselves. Thus, the two made up, like a husband who returned to his wife after being separated and melted with her by hugging.

The Saudi newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT interviewed the new Iranian ambassador to Saudi Arabia, who immediately told the paper that the blood, disputes, and conspiracies between Saudi Arabia and Iran were only illusions entertained by the two sides, and that what was said about Iranian plans to swallow up the Gulf, occupy its islands, and reach its western tip were also sheer illusions. The Iranian ambassador further said that what the Iranian pilgrims did in Mecca was misunderstood. This is because they were only performing religious rites in a new Islamic fashion, while Saudi authorities imagined that they were disturbing security. He also argued that what Iran said about the mass execution of pilgrims in Mecca tunnels was not meant against Saudi rulers, but that the reference was to Iraq, since every problem between Iran and the Arabs is created by the Iraqis.

In a submissive tone, the Iranian ambassador also told the Saudis that Iran does not want to dominate the region, nor does it have any territorial ambitions. The Saudi reporter nodded his head, implying rational, clever understanding, especially when the Iranian ambassador said that weapons in Iran will not be directed at Arabs, nor were they ever directed at Arabs. The two men praised God that their stands are now identical. The reporter concluded his interview with the dear guest by announcing that everything that was said about Iran's relationship with Israel was a lie made up by Iran's enemies.

We put the paper aside—the same paper whose main office in London was about to be blown up by the Iranians in 1984; it is also the paper that one day carried the banner "The Iranian Devil Drowns Mecca in Blood." We throw the paper aside, since the devil has arrived in its new uniform to enter Saudi homes, even their bedrooms. They rolled out a red carpet for this devil and opened the door to it and bowed to make room for the new/old friend. The Saudi king could not sleep safely in the past before receiving a call from Baghdad assuring him that the road through which the Iranians would get him was blocked. At the time, Fahd used to say: "Had it not been for you Iraqis, we would have been in a very difficult position."

One day the Saudis will regret this and look to Iraq to grant them safety and protect them when they are afraid and horrified.

The day is not far off when the Iranians will demonstrate in Mecca, wager on al-Ihsa' and al-Qatif [areas in Saudi Arabia where majority are Shiite], and grow plants in al-Ta'if and al-Qatif, whose fruit will not please Al Sa'ud.

Let each one of them hide his dagger under his cloak. Which hand will draw the dagger first? At any rate, Iranian cloaks are darker and thicker than Saudi cloaks.

Saddam, Wife Receive Cooperative Union Delegation

JN1106064592 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve and protect him, today received Sa'dallah 'Atiyah, head of the General Cooperative Union, and a number of the union's female members in the presence of the leader president's wife, Sajidah Khayrallah, who leads the comprehensive national campaign to provide children's clothing under the slogan "Children's Joy."

His excellency acquainted himself with the activities of cooperatives in general and with the activities of the productive cooperative societies in particular.

Shamir Terms Gaza Closure 'Undesirable'

TA1006113892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] More than a thousand Gaza workers left today for jobs in Israel. Restrictions on the movement of Palestinians from the Gaza Strip are being further relaxed today. From this morning, all Arab workers aged 25 and over will be allowed to enter Israel, irrespective of how many people will work at their places of employment. Israeli employers may now receive special exit permits for all workers in this age category.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that the closure of the Gaza Strip was undesirable. The Strip was closed two weeks ago following the murder of 15-year-old Helena Rapp in Bat Yam by a Gaza Arab.

Compromise Proposal on Dotan Issue Considered

TA1006115892 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Jun 92 pp A1, 8

[Report by Aluf Ben, 'Aqiva Eldar, and Uri Nir]

[Excerpts] Israeli Government officials are working out a compromise proposal to permit a partial Israeli response to the demand by U.S. investigators to take a deposition from Rami Dotan, former head of Air Force procurement, who is now serving a 13-year sentence for fraud, theft, and corruption.

Under the proposal, American investigators will be able to present Dotan with written questions and receive answers from him without actually meeting with Dotan. The details of the compromise proposal have been discussed in recent weeks by the Defense, Justice, and Foreign Ministries and have also come up in contacts with U.S. sources but have not yet been officially presented to the United States.

Senior U.S. elements are currently working in cooperation with Israeli officials in an attempt to neutralize efforts by Congressman John Dingell, chairman of the committee investigating the Dotan affair, who is urging the administration to hold up assistance to Israel if it insists on refusing to permit Dotan to be interrogated. [passage omitted]

Diplomats in the Israeli Embassy in Washington advocate opening all the doors to the FBI investigators and the Pentagon to help the administration shake off Dingell's pressures. The sources believe that if the Administration can report to Congress that it is satisfied with Israeli's cooperation, Dingell will have nothing to say and the affair will die down quietly. If not, the confrontation between the Administration and Congress—and between them and Israel—might continue, seriously harming Israel's image in the United States and perhaps even threatening punitive measures against Israel.

Zalman Shoval, Israel's ambassador in Washington, does not support that position and apparently backs the current view among senior defense establishment officials—headed by Defense Ministry Director General David 'Ivri—who believe that the affair will not lead to a suspension in aid and that Israel should stand on its principles in the face of the United States.

Political sources in Jerusalem said yesterday that the Administration is not using threatening language but noted the danger that Dingell could insist on implementing legislation that the administration must report to Congress on violations of the foreign aid law and wrongful use of U.S. funding in the Dotan affair. The Administration could be urged to suspend military aid to Israel if it does not permit Dotan's questioning within 30 days and if the Administration cannot report to Congress on Israel's acceptance.

Israel's refusal to permit the Americans to interrogate Dotan is one of principle, according to defense establishment sources and the political echelon in Jerusalem. Israel views the interrogation of officials by a foreign country as a violation of its sovereignty and opposes setting a dangerous precedent. "There is a limit to the intervention that a sovereign state can permit a foreign source, even if it is a friendly country like the United States, and there is a limit to how far we can bend even if we receive aid from them," the sources said.

The defense establishment sharply criticized the behavior of the Americans, who are demanding to interrogate Dotan but have so far not transferred to Israel any information from their own investigation into the Dotan affair. Israel believes that information gathered in the United States could have helped put more Israelis on trial and even bring about a reconsideration of the plea bargain agreement signed with Dotan. "The Americans got all the material from us. We are the only ones to put people on trial, and they should do the same," sources close to the investigation in Israel said last night. [passage omitted]

Under Israeli law, permission to approve or restrict aid in investigations by other states is up to the government's legal adviser.

Shamir—Golan 'Will Never Be Given Back'

TA1006173192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1700 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says the Golan Heights are as integral to Israel as Galilee and other parts of the country and will never be given back. Speaking at a ceremony in Qazrin marking the 25th anniversary of Israel's capture of the heights, Shamir said special efforts should be made to develop the area. [passage omitted]

Labor Party leader Yitzhaq Rabin is also in the Golan this evening. He said at the ceremony that the Golan is a strategic asset and Israel will never come down from the heights. Rabin said under no circumstances should the

Sinai precedent be repeated in the Golan. I can promise that we will never return to the pre-1967 borders, Rabin told a crowd of Golan residents.

Syria Must Accept Peace 'Without Withdrawal'

TA1106053292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] The director general of the Prime Minister's Office, Yosi Ben-Aharon, says it is important to give priority to the Golan Heights in terms of budgets and investment to show the Syrians that the settlements in the Golan stand on a solid basis. Ben-Aharon told a Qol Yisra'el reporter this will induce the Syrians to adopt a more realistic attitude in the peace negotiations. Ben-Aharon is in charge of the peace talks with Syria.

During a visit to the Golan, he said the head of the Syrian delegation is always trying to get the Israeli side to use the word withdrawal, but I will never say it, Ben-Aharon said, because there will never be a withdrawal and the Syrians must understand that they can make peace with Israel without withdrawal.

Trade Memorandum Signed in Beijing

TA1006163092 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] A memorandum of understanding regulating economic and trade relations between Israel and the PRC has been signed in Beijing. Our economic affairs correspondent Menahem Friedman reports that the memorandum contains the principles of a trade agreement that will be signed at the end of a reciprocal visit to Israel by PRC Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Ministry officials.

As part of the agreement, restrictions on exports from Israel to China and on imports from China to Israel will be mutually canceled. Another clause in the agreement mentions that Israeli industries shall not sustain any real damage as a result of dumping.

Israeli Industry and Trade officials point out that agricultural and high-tech industries are the most favored sectors in Israel's exports to China.

Japan To Deny Guarantees Until Progress in Talks

TA1106074592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0700 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Japanese commercial banks will not give Israel loan guarantees because they consider it a high financial risk, the Japanese ambassador to Israel explained yesterday. The ambassador said that Japan would invest in Israel only after progress was made in the peace process and agreements against double taxation were signed.

Special Visas for Tunisian-Born Israelis Planned

TA0706202792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] The Tunisian Government intends to allow Israelis of Tunisian origin to visit Tunisia through special visas, as is the practice by Morocco. This is reported in LE POINT. According to this French magazine, the Lag b'Omer pilgrimage to the Island of Jerba and the synagogue on this island resumed three years ago. The Tunisian authorities adopt strict security measures, and according to LE POINT, the pilgrims are accorded a red carpet treatment. According to one of the pilgrims' testimony, kosher meals are served in several hotels. There are 600 Jews living in the Tunisian Island of Jerba today.

Sources—Syria, Iran Get 'Message' on Hizballah

TA1106062292 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] The IAF [Israel Air Force] raid came only a few hours after a Hizballah attack on an SLA [South Lebanese Army] patrol in south Lebanon. Defense sources said that the Syrian, Lebanese, and even the Iranian Governments have got the message that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] has been sending to Hizballah. The sources added that Syria and Lebanon would prefer that Hizballah act only after prior coordination with them to prevent any deterioration in the military situation. Our correspondent Gil Yerusalmi reports:

Israeli defense sources said that the ongoing IDF activity is designed to make it clear to Hizballah that it would be well advised to halt its hostile actions against Israel. Judging by the Lebanese Government's statements, Beirut will not act to restrain Hizballah; however, the Israeli sources asserted that at the same time it is clear that the Lebanese would prefer that Hizballah coordinate its operations with the government in advance. Syria holds a similar position. Israeli defense sources said that Syria aspires to a state of affairs in which Hizballah's actions would not harm Syria's and Lebanon's interests and in which the Shiite organization would not be totally independent and would have to have prior Syrian and Lebanese approval for its actions. The Israeli sources also claimed that Syria understands that the IDF's activity is not aimed against Damascus and that Israel has no intention of starting a war. This is despite the statements recently made by Syrian leaders, which described the IDF's activities in southern Lebanon as threatening to plunge the region into a new war.

Iran has issued numerous declarations expressing unqualified support for Hizballah. Iran is also the organization's patron and bankroller. The Israeli sources nevertheless say that the Iranians would also prefer that the situation in Lebanon remain under control.

Soldier Hurt After SLA Post Attacked

TA1006152492 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] This afternoon, an SLA [South Lebanese Army] post in south Lebanon was attacked with mortar and automatic weapon fire. An SLA soldier was moderately wounded and taken to a hospital. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that the SLA soldiers returned the fire.

Planes Rake Jabal Safi 'Terrorist Targets'

TA1006194192 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1930 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Earlier this evening Israeli Air Force planes raided terrorist targets in the Jabal Safi area in south Lebanon. The Army spokesman stated that all our planes returned safely to base and that the pilots reported hitting the targets.

Our military affairs correspondent 'Ido Baum notes that the raid came in retaliation for a terrorist attack on a South Lebanese Army [SLA] position in which an SLA soldier sustained moderate wounds. News agencies in Lebanon report that four people were wounded in the Air Force raids.

Jordanian Shakeup After 'Id al-Adha Predicted

TA0906140292 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Jordan's King Husayn intends to make important changes in the royal court and to reshuffle the Jordanian cabinet after the 'Id al-Adha holiday. This was reported by our correspondent, 'Abd-al-Wahhab Zahdah, citing informed sources in East Jerusalem.

It is expected that the changes will include the transfer of Dr. Khalid al-Karaki from the post of chief of the royal court to the post of foreign minister, replacing Dr. Kamil Abu-Jabir, who has been subjected to widespread criticism by the Muslim Brotherhood inside the Jordanian parliament. Mr. Marwan al-Qasim is to become chief of the royal court. Former Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat will be appointed the king's adviser for national security affairs. It is expected that Mr. 'Akif al-Fayiz will be appointed speaker of the Senate. A senior cabinet post reportedly will be given to Mr. Tahir al-Masri.

Commenting on the changes, observers in Amman said that the Jordanian king wants to close domestic ranks now in order to confront the severe attack to which he is being subjected by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia after the eruption of the crisis over the repair of al-Aqsa Mosque.

70 Prisoners Released To Mark 'Id al-Adha

TA1106101992 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0900 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Major General Dani Yatom, the commander of the Central Command, has issued instructions for the early release of 70 detainees and prisoners from Judaea and Samaria to mark the beginning of the feast of 'Id al-Adha. In addition, the commander ordered that 15 sealed alleyways in various towns in Judaea and Samaria be reopened so as to accord worshipers greater freedom of movement.

Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that this morning, Maj. Gen. Yatom and Colonel Moshe El'ad, the governor of the Bethlehem area, were the guests of Ibrahim Khalil, the mukhtar of Jurat al-Sham'ah near Bethlehem, and issued holiday greetings and good wishes to the villagers. The major general and his entourage were warmly received in the village. During the meeting, the governor of Bethlehem gave out two permits for family reunifications: one permitting a woman from the village to be reunited with her husband, who is in Jordan, and another which will enable a resident of 'Irtas to be reunited with his wife, who is also in Jordan.

Two Murdered in Gaza Strip for Collaboration

TA1006145392 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Yusuf Mahmud Qasqin, a Civil Administration clerk, was murdered this morning in Gaza's al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood. Masked men shot him to death as he was standing near his house with his son. The son was also shot. He was taken to Hadassah-'En Kerem Hospital in Jerusalem with moderate to serious wounds.

The body of another man was found early this morning in the al-Mughazi refugee camp and brought to al-Shifa' Hospital in Gaza. The victim's identity has not yet been released. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that both men were murdered because they were suspected of collaborating with the authorities.

An Army unit caught and arrested a youngster who was carrying a homemade gun loaded with one bullet in the village of Tammun in Samaria. A rental car was torched and totally burned on East Jerusalem's Salah al-Din Street.

Police Fire on Three in East Jerusalem; 1 Wounded

TA1106053592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] A terrorist armed with a pistol was seriously wounded and captured last night when an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol encountered a terrorist gang near the village of al-Yamun in northern Samaria. Other terrorists, who were also armed, got away. The Army is conducting intensive searches in the area.

Police in East Jerusalem last night fired on three masked men wielding axes, injuring one of them. The policemen

came upon the three and called on them to stop. They did not respond and one of them swung his axe. The policemen opened fire, moderately wounding one. The other two masked men escaped.

An Israeli soldier was lightly injured last night when he was hit in the face with a stone. The incident occurred near Bethlehem. The soldier was treated at an Army clinic.

King Considers Options for Shaping New Government

JN1006170192 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 9 Jun 92 p 17

[By Khalil Khurmah]

[Text] Amman—AL-BAYAN has learned that Jordanian monarch King Husayn is studying three options concerning the government that will shoulder the responsibility during the coming stage. Well informed Jordanian political sources told AL-BAYAN that the options are:

1. Forming a national unity government of notables to supervise the implementation and endorsement of new democratic laws, particularly the parties and the publications and press laws. It will also be tasked with dealing with the House of Representatives when these two laws are debated so as to endorse them in a way that is agreeable to all quarters in Jordan. Such a government will also be qualified to continue negotiations with Israel on the basis that it represents all political trends.

The sources said that this government would be formed by al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir, the current prime minister, or Ahmad 'Ubaydat, former prime minister and Senate member, who was famous for combating corruption when he led the government early in the 1980's. If such a government is formed it will include a number of former prime ministers and leaders of a number of political parties.

2. Reshuffling the present government where a number of ministers, particularly those holding key portfolios, will be changed, and will be replaced by figures who reflect views and positions of various trends so that the government becomes more representative of the political trends in Jordan.

The sources said that if this idea is adopted, a reshuffle will be introduced and will include the information, interior, and foreign ministries as well as a number of services ministries.

3. Forming a government from young technocrats to administer the country's affairs according to technocratic bases that are harmonious with modern science and that will help Jordan overcome its economic crisis and social conditions.

The most prominent candidate for forming such a government is Dr. Khalid al-Karaki, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court.

The Jordanian sources told AL-BAYAN that these proposals are currently being considered by the Jordanian monarch and that he will make the final decision, which is expected within the next days and before the end of this month. The decision will be made in light of the international situation and the policy that Jordan should follow during the next stage.

Closer Relations With Egypt, Saudi Arabia Urged

NC1106083292 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 9 Jun 92 p 5

[Interview with Jordanian Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir by Ihsan Bakr in Amman; date not given]

[Text] [Bakr] Mr. Prime Minister, how can we proceed toward a new stage of Arab solidarity, and how does Jordan envision this stage?

[Bin-Shakir] Jordan has always called for a united Arab stand in any situation. Now, at this critical stage, we need more than ever before a united Arab stand to confront Israel and the great changes taking place in the world. This is because if Jordan and any other Arab country take a united stand on any issue, they will be stronger and more capable of confronting enemies.

I can confirm here that we welcome any positive movement in our direction. In the recent past, we took many initiatives to attempt to bring viewpoints closer and improve and strengthen the Arab stand. Unfortunately, we did not feel there was any reaction.

[Bakr] What does the Jordanian prime minister have to say to the Egyptian people?

[Bin-Shakir] I tell the Egyptian people that they are a dear and cherished people to His Majesty King Husayn and to every Jordanian. I stress that the time has come for joint stands to be taken in the interest of Egypt, Jordan, and the Arab nation. I also say that the time of abuse and insults must end forever. We see no reason for the current state of Egyptian-Jordanian relations. I hope that we can all progress toward stands that can overcome this painful stage. However, our stands must be mutual, because as the saying goes "it takes two to tango."

[Bakr] What does Prime Minister al-Sharif Zayd Bin-Shakir wish to tell President Husni Mubarak through AL-AHRAM?

[Bin-Shakir] President Mubarak is the leader of a major Arab country. As prime minister, I do not deem it appropriate to address his excellency with a message. I feel it is enough to tell him that he knows well the personal relationship that existed between him and His Majesty King Husayn. He undoubtedly remembers it.

[Bakr] What do you say to the Saudi people?

[Bin-Shakir] The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a sisterly country and the Saudi Arabian people are a genuine and deep-rooted people. I believe that my message to the Egyptian people is a message to all the Arab people. The time has come for us to stand together to confront enemies and challenges.

[Bakr] What requests do you make to the Arab League secretary general?

[Bin-Shakir] I believe that when Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid wishes to take a stand whose objective is to

unite the Arab nation, he can do so. I believe his intention is to do this. I have great confidence in him, his abilities, and Arab trends.

U.S. Presence at School Inauguration Protested

JN1006123992 Amman AL-RIBAT in Arabic
9 Jun 92 p 4

[Memorandum sent by the Islamic Movement deputies to the minister of education—date not given]

[Excerpt] Your excellency, esteemed deputy prime minister and minister of education: God's peace and blessings be upon you. Out of a belief that it is their duty to offer advice; out of their commitment to shoulder their responsibilities as deputies, first before God and second before their people who have given them the honor of representing them; out of their conviction of the important role performed by our educational institutions; and out of concern to maintain the record of these institutions as unblemished as possible; the Islamic Movement's deputies in the House of Representatives deem it their duty to pause before two occasions that took place recently within our educational establishment.

First: The participation of the U.S. ambassador and Embassy staff in the inauguration of the Saffanah Bint Hatim al-Ta'i school.

While we know that the school is part of a project that has been established with the assistance of USAID, we believe that the U.S. ambassador's participation, particularly at this time, is a serious precedent that we reject and condemn, and we warn against the negative impact this may have. This participation is interference in our domestic affairs, and we reject any interference in these affairs by any party whatsoever.

We know that the assistance provided is part of international agreements that end with the provision of the necessary financing and should not go beyond, to interference in domestic affairs. We believe that the participation in the inauguration ceremony and the media coverage given to it harms the sovereignty of this country, and no one accepts this.

It is no secret to your excellency that this visitor is the representative of the United States, which the Jordanian people and their deputies unanimously agree was the leader of the aggression against our Arab nation in Palestine, Iraq, Libya, and other parts of our great homeland, and that it is the cause of every tribulation that befalls this Arab nation.

Our students, as your excellency knows, feel confused when they see us welcoming in our schools the representative of a country which continually perptrates crimes against our nation and which is tightening the siege on Iraq and Libya.

From the premise of our concern for our sovereignty and the credibily we enjoy with our students and citizens, we condemn this visit and hope it will not recur. [passage omitted

Djerejian Speech, Islam, U.S. Policy Analyzed

JN1006133192 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic
10 Jun 92 p 32

["With Life and People" column by Mazin Hammad: "Djerejian's Bomb"]

[Text] On 2 June, Edward Djerejian, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs, delivered a speech at the Meridian International Center in Washington on his country's policy vis-a-vis the Middle East and the Gulf. The speech was actually a carefully-considered political statement in which Djerejian spelled out U.S. objectives in the region as well as the U.S. Administration's "expectations" with regard to the conduct of the region's states.

The speech provided details ranging from "concern" for achieving a just, durable, and comprehensive settlement between the Arabs and Israelis; to the need to set up security arrangements to ensure an unimpeded flow of oil from the Gulf region; to supporting democracy, human rights, women's rights, and the rights of minorities. Djerejian's speech also tackled freedom of the press, as well as the creation of independent judiciaries. In his speech, he also touched on what he termed the "collective engagement" shown among the world states in the aftermath of the cold war—something which was manifestly demonstrated in the confrontation of Iraq, the start of Arab-Israeli negotiations, the imposition of sanctions on Yugoslavia, and the confrontation with Libya over the Lockerbie affair. Djerejian did not forget to use the "carrot and stick" tactic with Iran when he praised the election of moderates to the Majlis and criticized Iran's rejection of the Middle East peace negotiations.

Indeed, Djerejian's statement did not include any noteworthy surprises regarding the broad outlines of U.S. policy or U.S. objectives. This statement, as a matter of course, failed to criticize Israel, even mildly, despite its occupation of others' territory and its "typical" human rights violations. However, it certainly unearthed a bomb that suggests a future strategy, the kind of which is strange to us, in U.S. planning regarding how the universe should function.

The bomb which concerns us in Djerejian's speech is related to the ties and links to be maintained between the West and Islam as a religion and a political movement after the role of the latter became more apparent with the crystallization of the phenomenon of "political Islam," "Islamic renaissance," or "Islamic fundamentalism." These are the very terms used by the speaker in his speech.

What is interesting is that Djerejian strongly endeavored to calm the Muslims' fears of the West to the extent that

he vehemently assailed the London magazine "THE ECONOMIST" because a cover of a recent issue of the magazine headlined its main story "Living With Islam" and portrayed a man in Islamic dress, standing in front of a mosque and holding a gun. Inside the magazine, we are told that "Islam resumes its march against the West."

The U.S. official warned against this, saying that this is not true at all, and that there is no competition between Islam and the West. He added that the Crusades were over a long time ago and that Americans recognize Islam as one of the world's great faiths. He indicated that this religion claims adherents in the five continents of the globe and also that there are millions of Americans who are Muslims. He lavished praise on Islam, depicting it as "an historic and civilizing force among the many that have influenced and enriched our culture." He also acknowledged that the legacy of the Muslim culture which reached the Iberian Peninsula in the eighth century "is a rich one in the sciences, arts, and culture, and in tolerance of Judaism and Christianity."

There are many questions posed by Djerejian's speech on Islam and the West. Which type of Islam would the United States be willing to deal with? Is it the Islam as practiced in Saudi Arabia, Iran, Afghanistan, or Bosnia-Hercegovina? Or would it be a version of Islam that is tailored to suit U.S. interests? Why does Washington, in the first place, express a desire to coexist with Islam at a time when it is using the big stick against whoever dares to oppose it, and also when there are numerous Muslims who are willing to die while fighting it? Furthermore, does Djerejian's speech betray a fear of future Islam, 21st century Islam, which could wield unprecedented Islamic political influence and unprecedented renaissance as well?

At any rate, the content of the speech must be considered very carefully by Islamic thinkers, particularly since this speech shows U.S. intelligence in planning as well as a desire to call a truce with Islamic forces, which the United States does not feel are acting at the urging of "a coordinated international effort," as Djerejian put it. "What we do see are believers living in different countries placing renewed emphasis on Islamic principles, and governments accommodating Islamic political activity to varying degrees and in different ways," Djerejian said in his speech.

Does this mean that the United States is willing to accommodate Muslims and their activities regardless of how unrelated to its policies and interests Muslims and their activities might prove to be?

Fadlallah Says U.S. 'Trying To Divide Strugglers'

NC1106103392 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Jun 92

['Id al-Adha sermon by 'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah at Imam al-Rida Mosque in Bi'r al-'Abd in Beirut's southern suburb on 11 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear beloved: Global arrogance—in collaboration with the existing authorities in the Islamic world—seeks to divide Muslims and turn Sunnis against Shiites. Look, for example, at the current situation in Afghanistan. Afghanistan, through its fighters, offered hundreds of thousands of martyrs and victims in the confrontation with global arrogance, represented by the Soviet Union.

The associates of global arrogance used their news media to depict the situation in Afghanistan as one of conflict between two Islamic groups. Their interpretation of the situation there focused on an alleged conflict among the mojahedin. As soon as some Muslims, namely Hezb-e-Vahdat, whose members are Shiites, participated in the current hostilities, global arrogance and all their agents in the region were happy to explain that there is a conflict going on between the Shiite Hezb-e-Vahdat and the Ettehad-e-Eslam. Global arrogance and its agents want to divide Muslims by creating a myth of an ongoing Shiite-Sunni conflict.

Why did America and its agents not claim that there is an inter-Sunni strife? Why always a Shiite-Sunni conflict? Why do they make such statements? Do they make such statements out of concern for Sunnis or for Islam? They are trying to sow sedition among Muslims by using sectarian factors. [passage omitted]

I have said it many times before, but let me reiterate: Unity among Muslims does not mean that Sunnis or Shiites have to relinquish their distinct identities. Unity means that Muslims should stick together, because they have many things in common, such as their religious beliefs and laws and their political, economic, and security concerns, which must be the basis of our unity. Once we acknowledge that, we will be able to extend our hand to others, non-Muslims, from a position of unity, which is what God wants us to do. Worshipping God should be our unifying factor.

Let us now turn to the situation in Palestine and Lebanon. Global arrogance wants to give the Jews the upper hand. Every time Jews commit an act of aggression—the mere existence of Jews in Palestine, Lebanon, and the Golan is aggression—the world takes a neutral, or even a pro-Jewish, position. Israel has gained legitimacy in the United States. Israel is seen in today's world as an internationally recognized country, whereas the Palestinian mujahidin, struggling for their own homeland, are seen as extremists and terrorists. The mujahidin, who are trying to free their homeland and the land of Islam in Lebanon, are being depicted as terrorists and extremists. America has taken it upon itself to turn the issue of resistance in Lebanon to an issue of militias. America wants the resistance to be seen as a militia and be disarmed in accordance with the al-Ta'if agreement. What America does not want is a voice that may speak out against Israel, a movement that may resist Israel, or a jihad that may confront Israel. America is shuffling the deck in every country, threatening here and pressuring there and constantly using its double standards to snuff out the flame of jihad.

From all this we can see that America and its agents everywhere are trying to divide the strugglers. America claims that the Islamic Resistance should be destroyed and is trying to make a distinction between the Islamic Resistance and the national resistance. In Palestine, America has been trying to drive a wedge between the Islamists and the non-Islamists.

To all the mujahidin and all the strugglers we say that the issue of jihad is not confined to a certain time or situation. Although the Arabs have caved in under the pressures of global arrogance and the propaganda of the new world order, you must persevere. This is a psychological war that we have to win, just like any other war. [passage omitted]

Pakistan Reopens Embassy in Beirut

NC1006122892 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Pakistan reopened its embassy in Beirut today. A statement issued by the embassy in Beirut read that Pakistani Charge d'Affaires 'Abbas Riza Kazimi assumed his diplomatic duties today. The statement added that the Pakistani Government's decision to reopen the Pakistani Embassy in Beirut demonstrates the cordial, brotherly ties between both countries.

Israelis Continue Attacks in South

Commandos Attack SLA Patrol

NC1006142792 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Sidon, Lebanon, June 10 (AFP) - A commando unit on Wednesday attacked a patrol of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) with automatic weapons, Lebanese police reported.

They said unidentified assailants launched the raid in the central sector of Israel's self-declared "security zone" in south Lebanon at 1:15 P.M. (1015 GMT). The region lies opposite the Iqlim al-Tuffah region, a stronghold of the pro-Iranian Hizballah movement southeast of this port city.

There were no reports of casualties.

Heavy artillery duels erupted and the SLA position in Sujud was targeted by 120-millimeter shells, they said.

Earlier, a Palestinian guerrilla group said its fighters had ambushed an Israeli patrol in the security zone, killing or wounding several soldiers.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) said automatic weapons and rockets were fired at a 20-man Israeli infantry unit and two armoured vehicles near the Litani River.

"Many enemy soldiers were killed and wounded in the attack," a DFLP statement said.

On Tuesday, Israeli warplanes buzzed Palestinian refugee camps and Hizballah bases in southern Lebanon, local security service sources reported.

Activity was especially intense over Iqlim al-Tuffah, with planes staging mock raids and firing flares.

Tension has been high in south Lebanon for the past three weeks, during which Israeli air and artillery attacks on Hizballah and Palestinian positions have left at least 21 people dead and 78 injured, mostly civilians.

Phosphorus Bombs Dropped

NC1006164292 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1619 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Israeli warplanes raided the hills surrounding Tallat al-Luwayzah in Iqlim al-Tuffah at 1830 today. Citing security sources, AFP reported that the series of air raids, which began at about 1835, lasted for more than 15 minutes.

Our correspondent said that the raid targeted Hizballah positions between 'Ayn Bu Siwar and al-Luwayzah and that the raiding aircraft dropped phosphorus bombs, noting that the Israeli aircraft were still flying over the area when this newscast was being prepared.

[Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 1620 GMT on 10 Jun 92 reports: "Israeli artillery violently shelled the villages of Jarju', 'Ayn Bu Siwar, 'Arab Salim, Jabal Safi, al-Luwayzah, and Mlita in Iqlim al-Tuffah this afternoon. The shelling followed two operations against a joint patrol of the Israeli Army and the Southern Lebanese Army [SLA] and an SLA post.

"Hizballah said its members attacked a joint Israeli Army-SLA patrol on the Sujud road and that the two sides fought until 1600 today. Hizballah said an SLA armored personnel carrier was destroyed and its occupants killed or wounded, noting that Israeli aircraft raked the area with gunfire.

"Following the attack, a violent artillery exchange took place, during which an SLA post in Sujud was hit with 120-mm shells fired from Iqlim al-Tuffah."]

SLA Frees Detained Lebanese Soldier

NC1006173892 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1643 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] The agent militia [South Lebanese Army, SLA] yesterday afternoon released Lebanese Army soldier Ahmad Husayn Dallah. The soldier was detained near (?Arnun) five days ago.

Resistance Issues Statement on Attack

NC1106072092 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0530 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday, the Islamic Resistance executed two successful operations against patrols of the enemy and its Lahdist agents in Sujud and on the Dibil-'Ayn Ibil-Rumaysh triangle. Both operations resulted in direct hits on enemy vehicles and left several of its personnel killed or wounded.

The Islamic Resistance issued two statements about the operations, saying: As part of the fight against the infidels and marking the pilgrimage season, the great Islamic Resistance martyr group launched an attack on an enemy patrol at 1500 yesterday. The patrol, escorted by intelligence vehicles, was traveling between 'Ayn Ibil and Rumaysh in the heart of the occupied security strip near the border with Palestine. The attack led to the total destruction of the patrol and its escort; smoke was seen billowing from the area. The enemy—in shock from the painful daily attacks by the Islamic Resistance—brought in infantry and vehicle reinforcements.

In a further report about the al-Rumaysh operation, resistance sources disclosed that resistance fighters managed to completely destroy three enemy vehicles and smoke clouds rose above the area. Ambulances and helicopters rushed to evacuate the killed and wounded. Stunned and hysterical, the enemy opened sporadic fire at residential areas nearby.

Late last night, security sources in the security strip reported that Israeli helicopters evacuated 10 dead and 15 wounded Israeli personnel from the scene of the al-Rumaysh operation. The dead include high-ranking officers.

In a hysterical reply to the painful blows that the resistance is dealing to the occupation forces and their agents, the military planes of the Zionist enemies last night waged a raid on residential buildings in 'Ayn Qana. According to reports, the enemy planes attacked two empty houses in 'Ayn Qana at 1905 yesterday, destroying both; no one was hurt.

Concerning the Sujud operation, Islamic Resistance sources said that a resistance group ambushed a motorized patrol moving on the Sujud road, killing or wounding all its personnel and destroying one vehicle. The sources added that the enemy helicopters tried to evacuate the casualties but failed to do so due to antiaircraft fire from resistance positions. The resistance

fighters withdrew safely from the scene. A spokesman for the agent militia admitted the operation.

SLA Troops Penetrate Area, Open Fire

NC1106082392 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Lebanese security sources announced that 10 South Lebanese Army [SLA] soldiers penetrated hundreds of meters outside the security strip's central sector, firing automatic weapons on the surrounding hills before returning to base [date, time not given].

Position at Sujud Under Fire

NC1106084692 (Clandestine) Voice of the South in Arabic to Lebanon 0730 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Yesterday evening, Israeli warplanes reportedly raided Hizballah positions in the hills around al-Luwayzah, 'Ayn Bu Siwar, and 'Ayn Qana. South Lebanese Army [SLA] and Israeli forces artillery shelled terrorist targets in Jarju', 'Ayn Bu Siwar, 'Arab Salim, Jabal Safi, al-Luwayzah, and Mlita hill.

Later, a position at Sujud came under mortar fire, slightly wounding one soldier [not further identified]. Some radios reported four Hizballah terrorists were killed in the shelling.

Iran

President Remarks on 'Industrial Engineering'

LD1006104992 Tehran IRNA in English 0737 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 10, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Wednesday underlined evolution of production patterns through development of advanced technology and new methods.

The remark was part of a message which opened the "first seminar on industrial engineering and productivity" at Amir Kabir University this morning.

The importance of industrial engineering and productivity lies in the link between the levels of productivity and economic growth rates in various countries, the message noted.

Therefore, economic development of each nation is directly linked to the time that the engineering and productivity system of that country has undergone changes.

"Under present circumstances when the country is passing through the reconstruction phase, one way to control inflation is improve productivity level."

The message described as "inevitable" close cooperation of universities with other sectors of economy, especially during the reconstruction era.

President Urges 'Priority' for Social Security

LD1006181192 Tehran IRNA in English 1415 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 10, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said here today that without social security it would be impossible to assist the financially vulnerable sector of the society.

Speaking to the officials of the social security organization, the president also said, "the basic and pivotal task of the organization is to provide an overall social security for the people."

Referring to the pressures born by deprived people due to a lack of social security in the countries with free economic orders, Rafsanjani said, "we should therefore give priority to social security."

Hashemi-Rafsanjani said the existence of social security would give the people a sense of assurance to lead a fully confident life through access to medical care in the future as well as tackling their daily living for the time being.

The managing director of the organization, Karbassian, reported to the president that the number of the people insured from March 21 until May 21, 1992 has exceeded 13 million up by 14 percent compared to the corresponding period in the past year.

He added that the organization is operating with 275 executive units, 20 hospitals, 103 clinics and has already begun to build 60 new hospitals across the country.

He said the organization has set up an especial team to implement a public insurance plan as the major objective of the social security in Iran.

Reaction to Execution of Mashhad Demonstrators

'Special Antiriot Squads' Formed

NC1006204792 (Clandestine) Voice of Mojahed in Persian 1600 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] In a reaction to the grand demonstrations by the heroic people of Mashhad and to combat the cresting uprising of the people, the remnants of the pestilence-ridden Khomeyni regime have set up special Islamic Revolution Guards Corps units called the special antiriot squads. In an interview with JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, one of the criminal officials of the corps said that the objective of setting up the squads, which have been named anti-'Ashura, is to combat the enemies of Islam and the revolution.

This criminal mercenary attributed the regime's haste and confusion in taking such an antihuman action to the recent counterrevolutionary activities, obviously alluding to the people's heroic demonstrations in the risen cities of Iran.

In continuation of the popular protests and uprisings in the past few days, a group of heroic Arak residents set fire to a Bank-e Mellat branch with a grenade. The Khomeyni regime's officials, who were extremely terrified of disseminating this report among the people, spread the rumor that the blaze resulted from a short circuit or was probably due to the explosion of a gas cylinder. It is reported that the atmosphere in Arak has instilled fear in the regime's mercenaries, and in the internal circles of the regime it is being said that with these incidents, the mojahedin are awaiting an opportunity to enter the fray. Portraits of Khomeyni and Khamene'i also were set on fire during the demonstrations. This indicates the smoldering embers under the ashes and that the people of Arak will not take things lying down.

Uprising Urged

NC0906204292 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Station commentary: "The Clerics Are Polishing the Sword of Death!"]

[Text] Dear listeners: Following the incidents of 30 May in Mashhad, the ruling clerics have rolled up their sleeves in preparation to unleashing an unprecedented wave of merciless executions. On the day after the Mashhad incidents, during which the disenchanted people of that city attacked buildings housing the regime's organizations, Interior Minister 'Abdollah

Nuri, in a televised speech, told the public that a new wave of killing freedom-seekers was to begin. Referring to the 30 May riots and trying to downplay the protest movement, the interior minister shamelessly said that the riots were the result of the excessive leniency of the Iranian officials which would henceforth not be allowed. Nuri said that a few hooligans should not be allowed to disturb the peace of 2 million Mashhad residents. The rioters will be dealt with severely, drastic punishment being the plan.

Liars do not remember what they say, and Nuri—despite his efforts to downplay the number of rioters—announced that more than 300 demonstrators were arrested and will soon be tried and sentenced.

He did not realize that everyone would figure out that if you arrest 300 leaders, it means that thousands of people took part in the demonstrations. Neither did he realize that he admitted that only a few people disrupted a city of 2 million residents!

Following the interior minister's remarks, other high-level officials voiced their opinions on the Mashhad events and repeated the same threat of new killings. One could almost smell the odor of blood coming from the mouths of each of these officials. For example, let us examine some remarks by cleric Ahmad Jannati at the Tehran Friday prayers. Jannati, who does not care for people or fear God, said: On the basis of Islamic law, no mercy should be shown to those who disrupt public law and order or endanger the lives of the people.

One may ask, who has disrupted law and order and who has endangered the lives of the people? Who is the true enemy of the lives, property, comfort and security of the people of Iran? If no mercy is to be shown to such people, they should understand that it is the regime and its officials that should be tried and punished for their deceit and crimes.

Has any part of Iran been secure of comfortable since the regime's coming to power? Which group has felt the boundless happiness? What happened in Mashhad on 30 May—and what occurred earlier in Arak and Tehran and other places—is not the result of the people's rebelliousness nor the agitation of a few hooligans or troublemakers; it is a natural and legitimate reaction to the 13 years of tyranny, egocentricity, and dictatorship.

The repercussions of the lawlessness of a handful of narcissistic clerics, who do not fear God, have been needlessly thrust on the shoulders of the tens of millions of Iranian people. After 13 years of bondage under the most inhumane regime in history, the Iranian people have reached their limit and have risen with zeal and fervor to liberate themselves from their condition, which is the consequence of the clerical regime trampling on their rights and freedoms.

The ruling clerics are well aware of this and they intend to bare their fangs and talons and intimidate and terrify the people of Iran. All the evidence points to the fact that a new phase of combat between truth and falsehood, human and inhumane, between the people of Iran and the Khomeyni regime has begun.

Yes, threats and intimidation against the people of Mashhad are tantamount to the threats and intimidation of all the people of Iran. The decrepit clerical regime intends to unleash a bloodbath of executions to further beleaguer the Iranian freedom-seekers.

A number of the Mashhad demonstrators have probably already been executed and undoubtedly a large number will be sent to the firing squads and the gallows soon. People throughout Iran should rise up against the repressive policies of the regime, especially those being implemented against the Mashhad demonstrators.

What happened in Mashhad will happen throughout Iran soon. According to the proverb, this tale will soon reach every home. We need to rise up together to protest the regime's policies and prevent the mass executions of our compatriots in Mashhad.

If we remain indifferent in the face of the regime's crimes and permit repression in Iranian cities the regime's officials will not cure the ills and adopt the path of mercy, affection, justice, or sagacity.

Come, let us confront the regime together! The people of Kordestan have been struggling against the inhumane Khomeyni regime for 13 years and are ready for the cooperation and support of the Iranian people throughout Iran. With hopes of a grand, nationwide uprising to roll up the scroll of the existence of the retrogressive regime!

Regime's 'Brutality' Cited

[Unattributed commentary]

NC1006200092 (Clandestine) Voice of Mojahed in Persian 1600 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] The regime's radio carried a report about the criminal executions by the antihuman enemy in its newscast at noon and gave the names of the executed as Javad Ganjkhanlu, Gholam Hoseyn Pushirzad, 'Ali Sadeqi and Hamid Javid. The execution of these great offspring of the people of Mashhad and the announcement of it—at a time when even the servile publications of the regime openly admitted that this uprising was initiated by the people themselves—confirms more than ever the vital need of the afflicted dregs of Khomeyni's regime for repression and brutality.

Who does not know that the filthy clerical regime, which is now besieged by the disgusted people's fury and abhorrence, has no hope of salvation and that executions, killings and hangings can only increase the people's outrage?

The people of Iran—in solidarity with their pioneering mojahed offspring in the National Liberation Army

[NLA]—will shatter the foundations of the disgraceful clerical regime and will deal a befitting punishment to its officials.

Iranian resistance leader mojahed brother Mas'ud Rajavi issued a message conveying blessings to the heroic people of Mashhad and the martyrs of 30 May regarding the execution of some of those who participated in the great Mashhad demonstrations. The executions were announced by Khomeyni's regime during its noon newscast. In this message, Rajavi stated that Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Khamene'i and other remnants of the Khomeyni regime—who have become apprehensive following the heroic demonstrations by Mashhad residents and after arresting more than 3,000 Mashhad residents—prepared to initiate the executions of the demonstrators, which were announced officially by the regime's radio. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Khamene'i and the other bloodthirsty clerics—who learned the methods of cruelty, bloodshed and fraud from the savage Khomeyni—reported the execution and hanging of the deprived and disgusted people on the eve of the 'Id al-Adha. They had already made life miserable for the people and killed their offspring. This bestial crime, these impostors' despicable propaganda, and the terrified officials' litanies against the disgusted people will have no effect.

The debilitated dregs of Khomeyni—who in the wake of the cresting of the grand popular demonstrations in various cities, especially following the heroic demonstrations of the people of Mashhad, Arak and Shiraz—have become overwhelmed with fear, cannot salvage their tottering government from this predicament.

Brother mojahed Mas'ud Rajavi referred to Cleric Khamene'i's remarks regarding the regime radio report about the execution of four Mashhad demonstrators and added: These opium addicts and litany chanters have come on the scene, because the regime's officials fear the dissemination of reports about the executions. Commenting about the magnificent marches of the people of Mashhad, he said: A small, hidden minority precipitated these incidents by taking advantage of the corrupt atmosphere and the slime-ridden vortex was created with the support of the vulgar and wicked ruffians. These adjectives are more befitting of Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani and their accursed and venom-filled Imam Khomeyni, as well as the entire filthy clerical government, than of anyone else.

Responding to Khamene'i's gibberish today and regarding the criminal executions in Mashhad, Rajavi stresses that following the confessions and acknowledgement by all the officials and the regime's media that the Mashhad demonstrations were a popular movement and a protest by the deprived, furious Mashhad people—and given the fact that the Iran resistance has extensively reported about the international level the news of the massive Mashhad demonstrations, the extensive arrests, and the criminal manner in which the regime justified the executions—the fabrications Khamene'i uttered today are as if he has spit upward so that it falls on his beard and on the accursed face of the clerical regime, which is the most conspicuous manifestation of filth, corruption and disgrace. His foolish apologies for downplaying this series of protests merely indicate that Khomeyni's criminal relics are fearful and perplexed.

The head of the national resistance council and the commander of the NLA added: Khamene'i's babbling and all the regime officials' reactions following the massive demonstrations in Mashhad, Shiraz, Arak, and cities all over the country prove that the dictatorial regime's clerics see themselves entrenched in the flames of the hatred and indignation of the risen people of Iran. On this descending precipice of decline, they see killings and executions as the only path to their salvation.

Now that this decayed and battered regime—in the aftermath of swallowing the poison of the cease-fire, which revealed the acute and rapidly proliferating internal crisis—is in no position to extricate itself through such atrocities and to combat the rising wave of protests and extensive demonstrations.

Brother mojahed Mas'ud Rajavi called on Iranian brothers in all the cities, especially the people of Greater Tehran, to express solidarity with their brothers in Mashhad, Arak and Shiraz by protesting the criminal executions. He said: Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Khamene'i—through their repression and execution of the risen people of Mashhad, Arak and Shiraz and by embarking on repressive maneuvers in Tehran—are seeking to prevent the spread of the people's protests to Greater Tehran. They are ignorant of the fact that by resorting to such crimes, they will only aggravate the loathing and abhorrence of the disgusted Iranian people against the ruling clerics and will ignite the fire of their hatred and indignation. This is the fire which has spread from Mashhad, Arak, Shiraz and other risen cities, and with its inseparable bond to the fire of the NLA combatants' weapons, will burn down the filthy and dilapidated clerical government and then blow its ashes to the winds of annihilation.

Salutations to the heroic people of Mashhad and to all the people in Iran who have from the outset risen against the brutal Khomeyni regime and nurtured the mojahedin and NLA combatants in their fold. The people and resistance will never be intimidated by these savages' hangings or executions. Now these decayed remnants of Khomeyni, with a dead leader, have no head or tail and soon will be sucked into the quagmire of the crimes they have committed over the past few years as they spill the blood of the innocent and disgusted people. They do this, unaware that with their own hands they are bringing closer the great day of the people's vengeance, the grand NLA uprising, and the downfall and destruction of the doomed clerical dictatorship.

Nine Shiraz Rioters Sentenced; 4 Executed

LD1106081592 Tehran IRNA in English 0751 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Shiraz, Fars Prov., June 11, IRNA—Nine saboteurs involved in the April 15 riots in this southern provincial capital have been sentenced to death and four of them executed, it was announced here Thursday morning.

Prosecutor of the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Shiraz Mohammad Karami also told reporters that the death sentence of the four, issued by the local court, were approved by the Supreme Court in Tehran. The Supreme Court has not announced its rulings on the remaining five, he said. Karami said 45 others have been given prison terms ranging from four months to 10 years.

According to Karami more than 240 were arrested in the April 15 riots but 170 of them who were overtaken by the prevailing atmosphere were later freed. He said cases of another 20 of the rioters are still under investigation.

Karami further told reporters that the outlawed and terrorist Mojahedin-e Khalq organization or other counterrevolutionary groups were not involved in Shiraz riots. "No single one of the sympathizers of these groups could be seen among those arrested. Those arrested were thieves, hooligans and tramps who had misused the kindness and freedom provided under the Islamic Republic system."

One of those executed, Mas'ud Gholami, known as 'Shahpur the butcher,' has had four cases of criminal records including stabbing and smuggling narcotic drugs, Karami said. "In the day of riot he (Gholami) along with another group wielding knives and daggers terrorized the public and attacked the public and the Hezbollah." The prosecutor further added that the incidents were triggered by improper attitude of a law enforcement officer towards a war disabled.

The war disabled, in a pre-planned program, had gathered in front of the rehabilitation center for occupational grievances. "The rioters took advantage of mistreatment of the war disabled and under the pretext of supporting the disabled embarked on counterrevolutionary behavior, clashed with the law enforcement officers, demonstrated and plundered and set on fire public properties."

The prosecutor praised the action of the Hezbollah and the Basiji (volunteer) forces in crushing the rioters and the timely action of the security officials in identifying those involved. He said "the Islamic Revolutionary Courts will, as before, deal decisively with the counterrevolutionary elements and those who disturb the public peace and social order."

In the riots of April 15 more than 15 vehicles, public and private, including several buses, as well as two gas stations and a law enforcement officers station were set on fire and destroyed. Meanwhile, seven banks and several other public properties were damaged. The rioters on their way looted several shops and robbed the bank customers.

Meanwhile, four who were found guilty of instigating riots in the May 31 sabotage in Mashhad, Khorasan Province, were hung Wednesday.

Radio Criticizes 'Retrogressive Clerical Regime'

NC1006101592 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Unattributed commentary entitled: "Intensifying Popular Anti-Regime Protests"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, our masses are becoming more dissatisfied and discontented with the retrogressive clerical regime. [passage omitted]

During the past few years we have seen the people seize every opportunity to show their inexhaustible aversion and rage toward the regime. From late last year [ending 20 March 1992] until recent weeks, the people's protests have intensified and demonstrations, protests, and other expressions of dissatisfaction have spread to small and large cities.

The recent incidents in Shiraz, Tehran, Arak, and Mashhad tell the story. In response to this unrest, the regime has deployed all its suppressive organs to confront the people's protests and the clergymen have launched a new propaganda campaign alleging that the protests do not stem from conditions in Iran and the all-round political, economic, and social crises. Everyone knows they are the direct outcome of the crises that affect every part of Iranians' lives and the consequence of suppression, massacres, high prices, poverty, joblessness, destruction, and all the tragedies that have been imposed on Iran during the clerical regime's era. These protests represent the explosion of the masses' wrath on their bleak future under the regime.

The regime now realizes that Iran has become a powder keg, that sooner or later the Iranians' economic, social, and political differences with the ruling regime will be the spark to ignite the keg. While using the most savage means of suppression, the regime also resorts to numerous promises. The leader of the system and the head of the government have made the main theme of their speeches their promise to tend to the deprived people. Naturally, promises are only demagogy; exploiting the people's religious sentiments has its limits.

Khamene'i, Rafsanjani, and the entire inefficient clerical system caused the current impasse in Iranian society, but we see these hypocrites' repeated rhetoric to gain the favors of the destitute and the oppressed. The leaders of the system call on the people to show patience so that they can establish Islamic justice in society, but the Iranian people have heard many such empty promises. They realize the true nature of the clerical regime, hence

their street protests in a bid to let the world hear the cry of hate for the clerical regime.

Under such conditions, it is Iran's struggling and patriotic forces' duty to intensify the masses' protests and improve their slogans of political demands. The recent incidents in Shiraz, Arak, and Mashhad show an end to the people's silence and retreat before the regime and a start to new popular courageous movements and their steadfast struggle against the regime. We should do everything to seize this historic opportunity. The protest movements should become a raging fire with which the Iranian people will burn the corrupt, suppressive, and despotic clerics. This is the revolutionary and historic duty of all the combatants and patriotic democrats; neglecting these duties will damage our people irreparably.

Basij Forces in Maneuvers at Tehran University

LD0806114592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] To show their readiness to defend the values of the Islamic revolution and to advance its sacred ideals, the Basij [Mobilization] resistance forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] of Western Tehran carried out a maneuver displaying their force under the name of al-Qara'ah [day of noise and clamor].

According to our correspondent, 10,000 Basijis took part in the maneuver by gathering at Tehran University and, while renewing their allegiance to the eminent leader and chanting slogans of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel," declared their readiness to confront foreign provocation and counterrevolutionary actions within the country.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Movahhedi-Kermani, the representative of the supreme jurisconsult in the IRGC, delivered a speech to those taking part in the maneuver. He explained the services which the Basij performs, spoke of their selflessness, and stressed the importance of a popular presence in all the arenas of the revolution. He said: Today, Basij forces are present in all the arenas of the revolution and are safeguarding its achievements. Mr Movahhedi-Kermani referred to some of the services performed by the Basij resistance force during the imposed war and said: Basij forces are among the most important forces assisting the revolution.

At the end of the maneuver, the Basij forces of Western Tehran's IRGC issued a resolution stressing the continuation of the path of his eminence Imam Khomeyni, may he be admitted to paradise, and their allegiance to the leader. In the resolution, the Basijis also issued a warning to global arrogance and declared their readiness to defend the Islamic revolution and to support the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Army General Praises Links Between Army, People

LD0806122992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0640 GMT 8 Jun 92

[From the "Army Program"]

[Text] Dear friends, we begin today's program with a short item on the visit of Major General Shahbazi, the esteemed chief of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army of the ground forces units stationed in Khorasan Province.

During his stay in Khorasan Province, the chief of the Joint Staff inspected all garrisons, bases, and army educational centers and reviewed various units' efforts toward maintaining and boosting their military capabilities. Major General Shahbazi attended a gathering in which a number of commanders and officials and a huge number of army personnel were present. The gathering occurred at the hoseyniyyeh of the Samen ol-A'emeh Division. He made a speech elaborating on the Armed Forces' devotion and self-sacrifice during the time of the imposed war. He also referred to the noble and heroic nation of Iran's love and strong fondness for the Army. He said:

[Begin Shahbazi recording] I wish to mention the sensational presence of the great Iranian nation at the Army Day ceremonies. In some cities people showered the forces with flowers, and when they marched they were welcomed with deep and sincere emotion. They showed that the Army, which is ready to sacrifice its blood to protect the life and wealth and honor of this nation, is a very reliable and much loved army. The people proved their support for the Army, and we announce our preparedness to remain steadfast in order to safeguard the just rights of this noble and martyr-nurturing nation, even if it should cost our lives. We are proud of our mission. [end recording]

Khamene'i Addresses New Majles Deputies

LD1006135692 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1002 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Speech by Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i to newly inaugurated deputies of the Fourth Majles in Tehran on 10 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the Name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. First, I am grateful to the dear brothers and sisters for giving me the opportunity, shortly after the start of your term of duty in the Majles, to talk to you on the Islamic Majles, the heavy burden of responsibility of the Majles and other related issues. I would like to welcome you. May God assist you and grant success upon you all.

The status of being a deputy of the Majles can be viewed in two different ways. That is, a deputy of the Majles can have two perceptions of his own status. The first is to

regard our status as a privilege. That is, being a deputy of the Majles gives us a title and a personal privilege to gain access to the state authorities and an open platform. This is often the case in the materialistic world, where plenty of efforts and campaign are undertaken and huge sums are spent until the privilege is achieved.

This is a clear financial calculation, some sort of trade to seize an opportunity. Whereas in the Islamic system, in our revolutionary republic, among our people—from whose midst you have risen and many of you have proud records for giving sacrifices by serving on the front, serving prison terms in the enemies' dungeons, being kept as POWs, or for having served in a constructive manner for years—and in the culture which rules our system, the first perception is rejected. If we were to make a general comment, we should say that not even a single deputy has such a perception of his status. Well, this should be the case.

The second perception is to regard the status of being a Majles deputy as a position of responsibility, a duty, an arena for the battle-hardened individuals to serve in. This should be the reason behind the enthusiasm for becoming a Majles deputy. This should be our motive for our endeavor to present ourselves, to say something about ourselves, or to attempt to arrive at this arena. This is the same as the morale of those enthusiastic Basij [Mobilization] volunteers, who would go to a base to be dispatched to the front. They used to get very upset if they were not dispatched. It was the same in the early Islamic era. It used to break their heart, if they were not dispatched to the front. They would strive to serve forward of the battle-lines. This was one perception of the status of the Majles deputy. That is, the volunteers strive to come and serve Islam, to serve the people and to demonstrate their talents in this divine and people's arena.

It has been decided to regard the second perception as the principal, or at least the dominant, perception in the case of our brothers and sisters who are representative of the Islamic system. [passage omitted]

About the duties of the deputies, according to my understanding of the Constitution, the norms and standards in our revolution and everything that helps us in this, the main duty of the deputies is to make laws. Of course, there is also supervising the implementation of the law and so forth, and very important it is too, but the basis of the country's management is legislation. That the legislators are elected from every corner of the country is so that the interests of the whole of the country are reflected in the laws. [Passage omitted]

Dear brothers and sisters, one should serve in this position sincerely. My advice about the Majles has always been the same, and that is, one should work sincerely and from the bottom of one's heart; and when a work is performed sincerely, the people accept it and fall in love with it.

It would be wrong for a Majles deputy if he were to go on the Majles' open platform and demand certain services for his constituency, without any consideration for the budget constraints, financial obligations, without paying any attention to other priorities, and without taking into account other plans of the Majles. This would be like putting a wrench in the works, just to pretend that he is working for the people of his constituency. It would be wrong even if you were to imagine such gestures would win you the people's support. You have seen in the past that such moves have been ineffective.

What wins the people's support is to be sincere with God. This is the secret. There is a Koranic phrase and an Islamic saying. It says: When you and I are honest with God, God will adjust the people's feelings toward us. There is no other way. This is the truth, which goes beyond mundane and materialistic calculations. [passage omitted]

My brothers and sisters, we are today serving in a proud system, whose flag is hoisted high in the sky. This system is named Islam, the Islamic regime. This regime is standing against the bullying and the blasphemous and despotic moves of the major powers. Without the Islamic regime, the major powers would take more successful steps to satisfy their greed and their illegitimate objectives. It was the Islamic regime which raised Islamic sentiments among the Muslims nations. It was the Islamic regime which created the feeling among the people of the world and the weak nations that they can rely on themselves. It was the Islamic regime which made the superpowers understand that what they desire would not always come true.

This system has turned into a very brilliant model and a tall building in the world. Maintaining this system requires earnest effort and this earnest effort is offerred in different forms by different individuals. One part of this earnest effort which is also very important is related to the power to legislate. This task has to be undertaken with good intention. Today, this responsibility lies on your shoulders. Yesterday, this responsibility rested on others, and tomorrow it will yet again be shouldered by others. Today, this very moment, you are the addressers - decide on how you should act on it. Bear in mind the interests of the society; bear in mind the priorities; make maximum use of the Majles' time.

I must thank you brothers and sisters - I said to Mr. Nateq-Nuri [Majles speaker and deputy for Tehran] that, if possible, this Majles should start its work as soon as possible. And, thanks to God, we see that this has been done. How effective this is for raising people's morale when they see that the presentation of credentials, the formation of committees, and those other preliminaries which used to sometimes take weeks to carry out, have been dealt with quickly and the Majles has begun to tackle its essential work.

There are a lot of issues that we must attend to today. We should not say that it is the government that has to carry

these out - it is you who can show the way to the government and say: this is the way, march along it. The government is obliged to follow that path. It is obliged to do so. If you place the law before the path being followed by the government, then it will go along with it. This is a government whose existence and thoughts are there fully to serve this country and its people. Its president is among the best; its ministers and officials are among the experienced and trained, fond of working; they are waiting for you to say: here is the way that we have ratified; march along it. And they shall. It is you who should come up with what the priorities are, discuss these, obtain experienced and well thought-out viewpoints, obtain the viewpoints of experts.

Of course, you have to know the experts because not every expert can be trusted. There are many experts who have misled high-ranking officials. We have seen this happening in these past several years; these are part of our experiences. [repetitive passage omitted] You have to have confidence in the motivations and Islamic, revolutionary, and patriotic zeal of the experts you consult. It is by benefiting from such experts, benefiting from deliberation and thoughts and from research into draft-bills and bills, from correct and real consultation - the Majles and comittees are arenas for real consultation - you should benefit from these, find the best solutions and endorse them and tell the government: March along this path because it is the best one. When people see this, they become happy.

Pre-agenda speeches can bring refinement to society; they can spray the social environment with perfume. [passage omitted]

That is how the Majles must be; where the people have questions, where the enemy raises questions, where the enemy plants the seeds of doubt in the society, it is your duty to enlighten society and remove the seeds of doubt.

Do you imagine that the enemy is idly whiling away the time? Not even for a moment can you assume that the enemy is remaining idle. He is bent on seizing every opportunity.

These events which recently took place in Mashhad and similar events are all the doings of the enemy. The enemy has put into action his own intellectual equipment to see when it can deal the blow. It is similar to an encounter in battlefield. [passage omitted]

His Holiness 'Ali has said that if you fall asleep in the trench during the war it does not mean that your enemy is sleeping in his trench. If you let your guard down you must expect to receive a blow from the enemy. The enemy is watching. The enemies are spending millions—it is not an exaggeration to say billions—to hit the revolution where it hurts. What is obvious is that they are not going to make peace with the revolution.

Unfortunately, I noticed that in some of the media there were incorrect analyses regarding the Mashhad events; they have accused the people. I must apologize to the people of Mashhad because of some analyses which have been made.

Like the people everywhere else in our country, the people of Mashhad have made many sacrifices for the revolution. How can anybody have the heart to level accusations on these honorable and clean people ?.

No sir, It is all obvious. The counterrevolution is behind it. However, the counterrevolution uses corrupt ground and rotten swamps. Some may find it strange when we talk of hooligans and loiterers, but such do exist.

There is a class of hooligans and trash. They are in a minority; they are freeloaders of the society. The security establishments must confront them, of course. They must pluck them out like weed.

The remaining part of arrogance goes to entice them and tempts them with a small handout, with an opportunity to plunder. It guides them to go here and there to do so and so and attack publicity organizations or engage in similar things.

The small and subversive counterrevolution, hiding behind hooligans, masterminds these events but the field work is done by such people. Of course, they may one day find a pretext in having an encounter with the municipality or, another day, they may seize on a traffic jam in a street or something like that. One day they may even create a cause themselves. If they are bent on something they can do anything.

The establishments must be on guard. I warn them not to give any pretext to the enemies. And in such events our security forces must act responsibly.

Those other points have nothing to do with analyses of the events. This was the analysis.

The ones suffering most from these events are the people; those most prepared against such events are the people to whom the revolution belongs. The ones who guarded the revolution for 13 years are the people. They endured all the difficulties to attain lofty objectives. [repetitive passage omitted]

The country's Hezbollahi youths, the pious and earnest forces, all who organized the war effort, the Basijis who bore heavy burdens throughout those long years, the families of martyrs and so on, it is they who should lead the ranks, and they do.

Under such circumstances everyone should see where they are, what their responsibilities are and what main tasks they have been assigned. This should not be overlooked or taken lightly even for a minute. That is our duty. [passage omitted on importance of the task of Majles deputies]

I should mention a point which was raised recently. One of the criticisms which may be levelled at parliaments is—such things are not unnoticed by the public and it has

been heard on occasion—that the deputies may, God forbid, use government resources improperly using their position as deputies. Of course, we do not think that of the deputies—neither those of this term, nor of previous ones. Muslim deputies are not like that. It would be impossible for a deputy who has come out with Islamic aspirations to behave in such a way. However, one should watch out. [passage omitted repeating the point and praying for success for the deputies]

Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Nateq-Nuri on Majles Elections, Other Issues

NC0806075092 Tehran RESALAT in Persian
13 May 92 pp 3, 12

[Interview with Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Nateq-Nuri, member of the Central Council of the Tehran Militant Clergy; place and date not given]

[Text] [RESALAT] The elections for the fourth term of the Majles ended with both bitter and sweet points. We would like to hear your assessment of these elections, in view of the problems that were faced by the term that has been completed.

[Nateq-Nuri] In the name of God, the almighty and merciful. First of all, I deem it necessary to extend my gratitude to the noble and heroic Iranian nation, especially to the sincere and pleasant people of Tehran, for their massive participation in the elections. You can see that almost 19 million people participated in the first phase of the elections.

In Tehran, 1.7 million people voted in the first round and more than 1 million people voted in the second round. Tehran had never seen such a large turnout as this. It shows that our people are alertly treading the clear path that the imam and the leadership have shown to them and that they ignore propaganda by arrogance.

These elections proved to the world the Iranian people's maturity and alertness. With their epic presence, the people put an end to all the propaganda attacks by the enemy and the world realized once again that it is dealing with a brave and courageous nation. The second outcome of this great chronicle was that the world realized that the first and last word is still uttered in this country by the imam of the ages, may God precipitate his advent, the late imam, and the esteemed leader. People and officials accept this fact and all the realities of our Islamic movement are based on it.

The third outcome of the elections was that they were held in a calm atmosphere in which security prevailed. At this point I would like to thank all the officials, especially the members of the supervisory committee and the executive committee, for their truly laudable efforts during the past month and for having worked around the clock on a very tight schedule.

At any rate, these elections had many results, too numerous to list. They should become an experience for us to review our words and deeds, to be more pleasant to one another, and to see to it that our words are well intended. I tell myself and my friends that our people want sincerity and a pleasant attitude and I hope that the fourth term of the Majles will be able to fulfill this wish of the people.

Truly we do not feel that we cannot work with each other. We can work next to each other as two friends and two factions that support the imam and the esteemed leader. I hope that in the future we will be able to achieve cooperation and concordance among ourselves. This revolution belongs to everyone. It does not belong only to one group and one strata. Everyone should play a role in elevating the system. None of the barricades of the system should be without the imam's soldiers, and we should all strive to man these barricades at all times.

[RESALAT] What specific principles do you propose for cooperation and concordance between the two factions and among the various strata?

[Nateq-Nuri] There was one major slogan that God inspired in our friends during the elections for the fourth term. This slogan was good and practical; it said: "Following the imam's line, obeying the leader, and supporting Hashemi." I think that the principle behind this slogan can be a good pivot on which all strata can base political participation.

No one should allow himself the least bit of doubt on the everlasting principle of the imam's line. In today's oppressive world, we do not see any ray that is stronger than the burning flame of the imam's line. Those who oppose the imam's line oppose our revolution and system. These people confronted the revolution from the very start and they will continue to confront it. The second point is: Who bears the torch of the burning flame of the imam's line? No one can claim that he bears the torch. The revolution, the system, the imam himself, and all those who have been chosen by the Islamic ummah have put this torch into the hands of a person who, according to our deceased imam, shines like the sun. This torch is now in the hands of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic revolution, and whoever harms this in the least possible way is not worthy of friendship.

The third principle is support for Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani. Who should implement the principles of the imam's line and of the leadership? Basically speaking, should this line be implemented or not?

If it should be implemented, then the Constitution and the people's vote say that the second person after the esteemed leader is the president, who heads the executive branch. We say that we should support him so that aspirations can be fulfilled. Who can we find better than Mr. Hashemi, who suffered in the past, was imprisoned,

and struggled against corruption; who is clever, jurisprudent, and a statesman; who was in two terms of the Majles; and who knows all the twists and turns of the system? If they know someone other than him, then let them introduce him. Mr. Hashemi is the best political and religious figure who can now direct and control a powerful government and someone who has given everything he has.

These three principles can form the basis of cooperation among all groups, parties, and individuals. Of course I would like to point out here that I do not mean that the government or even the president himself should not be criticized. People and groups are free to state whatever problem comes to their mind if they think it benefits the country. Today hundreds of magazines and newspapers are published in the country without censorship. We do not say that newspapers and magazines should start carrying eulogies. No. This is the Islamic republic. Freedom is the people's right. The people should be able to criticize freely. Criticism should be published for the public to see so the people themselves will understand if it is "criticism" or "revenge."

Criticism should be published so that people will be able to tell if it is well intended, or God forbid, if another motive is being pursued! The elections were a good lesson for us because they showed how much people capitalize on words.

Therefore, I would like to sum up what I have said. The basis of unity and concordance in our nation should be that we follow the line of the imam and obey the leader. We should not allow ourselves any doubts on these two principles. To fulfill these two principles, we need the third principle, which is support for Hashemi. This is the gist of our remarks.

[RESALAT] In view of the fact that the fourth term of the Majles will be of a completely different fabric, do you think that the fabric of the government will also change in the future?

[Nateq-Nuri] According to the Constitution, the government will not necessarily have to change. But the Majles considers it its right to exercise its supervision. The current government is a powerful government and I think that if the activities of the government and of the Majles are assessed, the next government will be the most powerful post-revolution government of the Islamic republic.

[RESALAT] As a deputy who will play one of the most important roles in the coming Majles term, please tell us what problems we are facing at the outset of the fourth term.

[Nateq-Nuri] I think that we should project a clear picture to the people so that they will know where we are headed. I think that our largest responsibility in the future is reconstructing Iran, internationalizing Islamic culture, and deepening the Islamic revolution at home and abroad, not necessarily in that order. We can proceed simultaneously toward all three goals. Iran is proud to have been the first country to establish Islamic rule in our era. Therefore, Iran should flourish and be free and become a practical example for the world to follow. The second point is internationalizing Islamic culture. Today Islamic culture has turned into an emerging culture that has risen to fight against Western culture and it has proven its superiority. This culture is rapidly influencing the political fabric of other countries. In the war against world arrogance we are not equipped with nuclear arms. We have an illustrious message that all nations want to hear. This message lies in the rich culture of Islam and no one is able to stop its growth and movement. You can see this in Afghanistan now. Afghanistan is the second Asian country that has established an Islamic republic and the difference between us is that we freed ourselves from the yoke of Western imperialism and they freed themselves from the yoke of eastern imperialism. You can see how the republics to the north of our country are ready to accept Islamic culture.

As for the third issue, which is deepening the Islamic revolution at home and abroad, we have a long way to go before we achieve all the objectives and aspirations of the imam. This revolution is almost reaching maturity. We quickly passed through the growing up phase and the people now regard matters more profoundly. We should strive to make the aspirations and objectives of the revolution more profound in all fields and we should strive so that this process will be carried out simultaneously both at home and abroad. We should avoid annoying and useless confrontations. We should look to the future—to a bright future when the beautiful sound of God's words and the words of his prophets will fill the world. Wherever you look today, in Europe, America, Asia or any other part of the world, you can see a hotbed and a deep wound! These wounds should be tended to. Some of the wounds, like the regime occupying Jerusalem, need to be cut off. We should agree to bear the pain of cutting it off. But there are other wounds that can be healed through talks.

Now the Islamic Republic of Iran is mediating for a solution to the Karabakh problem. Had it not been for this mediation, God knows how much more blood could have been shed. You can see how all the diplomatic ability of Europe has failed to prevent the war and bloodshed in Yugoslavia. Our mediation in Karabakh shows the strength of our foreign policy.

At any rate, I hope that this century, which is the century for the liberation of the oppressed and has been named the era of Imam Khomeyni, will be the harbinger of order, tranquility, and security for all the people in the world.

The deprived and the oppressed of the world should know that our revolution is their supporter and that it will continue to stand next to the oppressed nations of the world.

[RESALAT] One of the important issues that the people are now thinking about is the cultural offensive. What is your opinion on this?

[Nateq-Nuri] I think that first the dimensions of the cultural offensive should be explained and then we should determine what the duties of the Majles are. The issue is now being discussed as a security matter in the Supreme National Security Council. I do not know how much progress has been made. The people's deputies should also be able to carefully follow these discussions so that they can come to a conclusion on the role that the Majles can play in this.

What I can say as a scholar is that the cultural offensive in its true sense is more than what we see on the streets and in public. Cultural offensive in its true sense turns back to the fact that a group of people are now sitting and theorizing on a series of issues in order to basically question the principle of the revolution and whether a rule can be Islamic or not.

They have worked on the philosophical and political aspects of this idea and they are now busy studying the scientific aspects of the issue. I will not speak more openly. The religious seminaries have an important duty in seriously confronting this. We are people who, from the outset of the revolution, were involved in issues of the revolution and in executive affairs. We did not have the time to trace these ideas but we knew that they existed. Do not take the plan for a rule starting from the bottom and moving up lightly. This is a political game. This is a cultural offensive!

There is no school of thought now that can withstand the illustrious teachings of Islam, except for liberalism! And of course this phenomenon is not merely a figure but is showing itself in the various ideological, scientific, cultural, political, and economic fields.

[RESALAT] In his recent meeting with officials of the pilgrimage, the esteemed leader once again emphasized the severance of relations between Iran and the United States and stated that we are not prepared to so much as look at them. At the same time, Western propaganda is trying to portray those who won in the elections as supporting relations with the United States and the West. What is your opinion?

[Nateq-Nuri] I explained this point previously in an interview with you. His Eminence Ayatollah Mahdavi-Kani has also explained this point in detail to you in an interview and he also discussed the strong reason behind severing these relations. The position that the leader of the Islamic revolution stated some time after this was nothing new. He considers the issue of relations with the United States to be the thin red line of the revolution and all the imam's followers accept this. Recently, the Americans have started to beg, even though they know that they are guilty. What we have to say to the Americans is logical. Descend from your arrogant position! Accept that you too are a country like all other countries of the world. Respect the rights of nations and governments so that the world will realize that a wise government is ruling America.

How can the Islamic revolution have relations with a government whose relations with us are based on force and threat? How can our revolution have relations with a government that supports the biggest enemy of Islam and of the prophet, or in other words, a bunch of Zionists, all with a terrorist background and a record of massacring innocent people, and who are now speaking to the people in the occupied territories in the language of tear gas and bullets? Look at recent incidents. See how they oppressed their own people. How can we have relations with a country that so blatantly violates human rights?

The Iranian nation is the enemy of the U.S. regime and this enmity is not something that can end so easily. We have a principled struggle against world arrogance headed by America. We are courageously and steadfastly confronting America in all fields. What our dear leader stated some time ago was based precisely on the stances of our nation. Our stance in the past, now, and in the future on America was, is, and will be what the leader stated.

[RESALAT] The people expect the Majles and the deputies they have voted for to try to untie one economic knot after the other. The people are worried about inflation and high prices and consider these harmful to the revolution and the system. What steps do you think the future Majles can take to solve the people's economic problems?

[Nateq-Nuri] Since the outset of the victory of the revolution, official have spent most of their time neutralizing the political, military, and cultural plots hatched by world arrogance while in parallel with all these plots, the enemy tried to reduce our country's economic strength to a minimum. The U.S. freezing of Iran's assets, the destruction of our vital resources in the war, the drop in oil prices, the economic siege, and dozens of other such steps were used to prevent the revolution from standing up on its own two feet economically. Now that all these plots have been thwarted and some of these satanic policies have backfired, it is necessary for people and officials to focus their firm determination on the important objective of reconstructing our dear Iran and in making this the decade of construction. We should all work toward this end. Our country's production should become an asset and capital should be directed toward production.

We now have a postrevolutionary five-year plan. The five years of this plan are coming to an end in the first year of the fourth Majles term, after which we should compile a second five-year plan. We should start now to assess the first five-year plan and to compile the second plan. The Majles has a determining role in this. All capabilities inside and outside the Majles should be mobilized for this purpose so that a correct and realistic

decision is adopted. Some of the brothers who toiled during the first plan and approved it were not reelected for the fourth term. We will try to use their expert views. They should assist the Majles in compiling the second five-year plan. At any rate, we should remove all the obstacles facing production and healthy economic activities that are in front of the people so that our people can have peace of mind on what they can do within the framework of law. One of the problems that had been almost forgotten during the past term of the Majles was the issue of the earnings and spendings of the country. Article 52 of the Constitution states that the state annual budget should be prepared by the government and submitted to the Majles for verification and ratification and that any alterations in the budget figures shall be subject to the provisions of law. Article 53 states that all government receipts shall be entered into the accounts of the Treasury General and all payments shall be made according to appropriations approved by law. Articles 54 and 55 of the Constitution state that the state court of accounts shall work under the supervision of the Majles and will audit all accounts of ministries, government institutions, companies, and other agencies that somehow benefit from the state budget to make sure that no item of expenditure exceeds the approved appropriations and also that every item of appropriations shall be expended for due purposes. The court of accounts shall collect pertinent accounts and documents, as the law ordains, and submit these and its views to the Majles annually. These reports shall be published for public notice.

This did not happen in the past. This important duty of the Majles has not been carried out. These principles are not mere formalities in the Constitution and it should be clarified how each institution or ministry has worked. The government's financial structure should be in some order. Waste should be stopped and the wealth of the Muslims should be kept safe from contaminated hands. Of course this is a difficult task to accomplish in view of state bureaucracy. The government should reduce the volume of its paper work as much as it can since the more departments the government has, the more it will be weakened and the more it concentrates and controls its activities, it will enjoy more strength. I hope that the future Majles will increase its supervision. On the basis of Article 76 of the Constitution, the Majles has the right to inquire about all the affairs of the country and the deputies of the nation should know what is happening in the country so that some people will not have ill intentions regarding the national wealth because of negligence by the Majles.

Of course, I do not know how successful we will be in carrying out these activities during the fourth term. But, God willing and with divine help we will be able to overcome one problem after the other. Of course some of the problems lead to the people. If a merchant thinks only of himself rather than the people and the system, he will definitely be tempted to resort to hoarding and profiteering. If a worker wants, God forbid, to steal and be unfaithful to his commitment, he will be committing a sin! If an employee's output for an entire shift is only one hour of useful work, then he will be committing a sin. All these economic mistakes lead to poverty, economic crisis, and untreatable inflation. I hope that we will strive to create a situation where someone who comes to the country from abroad will see that God rules the market, that the factories and production units are being run by hard-working and earnest laborers and that the sweat being shed in the farmlands is for the sake of the system's grandeur. We should always bear in mind the fact that we should only depend on our two hands in economic affairs. The people should not think that the government should do everything. They too should help and not sit back idly. We have everything in the country. God almighty has granted so many resources to this country that we can easily meet the needs of 300 million people. Then why should we be unable to fill the stomachs of 60 million people?

[RESALAT] In view of the outcome of the elections, what are your plans for closer contacts with the people?

[Nateq-Nuri] The people have placed a heavy responsibility on the shoulders of the Militant Clergy, and if we do not enjoy the help and assistance of the people, the Militant Clergy cannot fulfill its task. The contacts between the people and the Clergy and the Clergy and the people should increase. This relationship can be expanded through the mosques. The Militant Clergy's publicity unit should continue organizing lectures and contacts with the people both through elected deputies and through other members of the Militant Clergy so that the people can directly convey their problems to them. I hope that the people will consider me worthy of serving them and I once again thank them for their massive turnout in the first and second rounds of the elections.

Foreign Diplomats Accused of 'Anti-Islamic Acts'

LD1006105992 Tehran IRNA in English 0915 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 10, IRNA—The morning daily 'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI' Wednesday criticized certain diplomats in Tehran for misusing their diplomatic immunity to mock the Islamic values of the Iranian nation.

According to the daily, certain Western embassies in Tehran are at work propagating anti-Islamic values. It referred to the case of the Romanian ambassador to Tehran who attended a mixed wedding party in Tehran in which men and women were dancing together.

"The Romanian ambassador was in a wedding ceremony in western Tehran in which the guests were engaged in anti-Islamic acts. When the law enforcement officers arrived there, the ambassador filmed the officers who were carrying out their assigned duties. The officers demanded the film but the diplomat refused to hand it

over and left the house, thus exploiting his diplomatic immunity," wrote JOMHURI.

In another instance, the paper added, an Italian diplomat arranged a tribal wedding ceremony in a village in Lorestan province which instigated protests by the local people.

Also, two German tourists were arrested recently for having been to a party in northern Tehran which "drunk men and women were engaged in anti-Islamic behaviors." Some 26 men and women were in the party most of whom had consumed alcoholic beverages.

"It seems that the West has a calculated plan in its agenda for consolidating the foundations of a cultural assault through foreign embassies in Tehran," the daily reiterated.

It said that the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Information and Interior have specific obligations in countering such abuses. "The embassies, however, should better remember that the Iranian people will not allow them to make face at the values of a Muslim nation through resorting to their diplomatic immunity."

"Naturally the foreigners, whether diplomats or not, will be responsible for any difficulty that their violations may create for them," concluded the paper.

More Gains in Anti-Narcotics Efforts Expected

NC0806114492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0425 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Commentary by the Central News Unit's Research Group]

[Text] The UN Drug Enforcement Committee recently announced that in 1370 [year ending 20 March 1992], the Islamic Republic of Iran confiscated the largest quantity of morphine of any country. Following persistent efforts by our drug enforcement forces, the quantity of morphine confiscated in Iran comprises 80 percent of the total quantity confiscated worldwide. Thus, in today's commentary we will first discuss the activities of the drug enforcement forces in 1370 and in the first months of 1371 and then we will study the law enforcement forces' plans for 1371.

A glance at the activities of the drug enforcement forces last year shows that they managed to rout 200 drug manufacturing and distribution bands throughout the country through a series of regular and irregular operations in various parts of the world. The drug enforcement forces' operations were most extensive in the east and drug enforcement agents were able to confiscate more than 42 tonnes of various drugs. This is 70 percent higher than the quantity of drugs confiscated in 1369.

The drug enforcement forces identified more than 50,000 addicts throughout the country in 1370 and handed them over to judicial sources and rehabilitation centers.

Among the other spectacular successes scored by the drug enforcement forces in 1370 were their laudable operations in the greater Tehran area. Following exemplary efforts, agents in the greater Tehran area managed to discover and rout 150 drug manufacturing and trafficking bands and confiscate more than five tonnes of various drugs. They also arrested 4,000 merchants of death and identified more than 5,000 addicts. All these figures speak of the bright record of the drug enforcement forces in 1370.

The record of the drug enforcement forces in recent months show that in the first months of 1371 alone, these forces were able to find more than 1,000 kg of morphine in the western parts of the country.

In view of the Narcotics Headquarters' plans for fighting this ruinous problem, more spectacular results are expected this year. The most important part of the law enforcement forces' program in the fight against drugs in 1371 is the careful control of borders, including closing mountain passes used by smugglers' convoys, manning and equipping border guard posts, and using effective methods in the fight against smugglers. The Islamic Republic of Iran is carrying out a more extensive fight against drugs with the cooperation of the member-nations of the UN Drugs Committee. This cooperation helps place the valuable experiences of the Islamic republic at the disposal of other nations on the one hand, and on the other, it helps international society achieve the humanitarian objective of a universal fight against drugs more quickly.

By allocating 5 billion special credits for an effective fight against drugs, the extent of the fight against smugglers inside the country is expected to increase further. It is hoped that the fight against drugs in 1371 will continue to reduce the quantity of drugs entering the country across the borders and help to reduce drug trafficking and use in the cities. It is also hoped that by maintaining their full readiness, the drug enforcement forces throughout the country will pave the way for completely overcoming this ruinous problem in the future.

Rafsanjani Receives Appeal From Bosnian Citizen

LD0806170992 Tehran IRNA in English 1551 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—A Bosnian citizen has sent a letter to Iran's President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani and appealed to the Islamic Republic of Iran to help the oppressed people of his country entangled in an unjust war imposed by the Serbs. The appeal was made following escalation of assualts by the Serbian Armed Forces against Muslim civilians in Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Adverting to the crimes committed by Serbian forces, the writer of the letter called the war against Muslims as "the most unjust war of history". The atrocities committed against the Muslim civilians in Bosnia-Hercegovina by the Serbian "bloodthirsty" forces have made one million Muslims desert their hometowns, said the letter.

"Mr. President, we are witnessing mass killings and burning alive of innocent and defenceless Bosnian Muslims and ask ourselves whether we can stay indifferent," said the letter.

The Bosnian national has also urged President Rafsanjani to do all he can to prevent further genocide of the war-stricken Muslims of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Warning Message Sent to Yugoslavia on 'Id al-Adha

LD1006115492 Tehran IRNA in English 0459 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Prishtina, June 10, IRNA—The leadership of the Yugoslav Islamic community has warned the faithful to take precautions during the celebration of 'Id al-Adha, here on Thursday, June 11.

In view of the state of war existing in the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina (B-H) and a potentially volatile situation here in Kosovo, the Islamic leadership has recommended that sermons and 'Id al-Adha messages should not be read before large crowds of people. It calls on imams to take all possible measures to ensure that the ceremonies take place in maximum safety and "without consequences."

Kosovo, a southern province in Serbia whose autonomy was abolished by Serbian leadership in 1990, has a majority Albanian Muslim population. Local protest was put down by the shooting of unarmed civilians and massive arrests in 1990. A Serbian police rule is currently in force there.

The main focus of Thursday's 'Id al-Adha prayer will be the Macedonian town of Tetovo, where the reis-ul-ulema is due to speak. Due to the present situation in Yugoslavia, however, his message will not be televised. Macedonia has a 25 percent Albanian minority.

Yugoslav news agency TANJUG on Tuesday, dispatched 'Id al-Adha good wishes from the head of the Kosovo, Serbian and Vojvodina Islamic community, Redzep Boja, under the heading "incitement to war by Meshihat chairman."

Boja told the faithful that they would not be without the help of Allah, despite their great difficulties. "The occupier does not choose either ways or means of humiliating and liquidating us," he said, "but we shall prevail because we are more united than ever."

The Islamic leader called on believers to pray for victory "over psychopaths and madmen" who have been shedding the blood of the brethren in B-H tragic, says TANJUG.

Bosnia has a 44 percent Muslim population which for two months now has been in a state of total war with the Serbian Army.

At Least 5 Revolution Guards Killed in Lebanon

NC1006211092 (Clandestine) Voice of Mojahed in Persian 1600 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] One of the military officials of the Khomeyni regime revealed that a number of Revolution Guards dispatched to southern Lebanon were killed in a bomb attack by Israeli planes. SAWT AL-KUWAYT, which reported the remarks of this regime mercenary, stated: He said that Falahatpur [not further identified], who had been identified by the Khomeyni regime as a correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and who was killed in this attack, was a member of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps intelligence service.

The regime's military official said at least five corps members were killed. He added: Falahatpur, who was a member of the corps intelligence service in southern Lebanon, was carrying out intelligence operations under the cover of reporting for the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He revealed that the mercenary head of the corps in Lebanon had escaped the attack.

In the domestic media, the dregs of the Khomeyni regime have refrained from disseminating news of the killing of corps mercenaries in the bombing.

Iran Sends Aid to South Lebanon, Azerbaijan

LD0906182192 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Beirut, June 9, IRNA—A 400 ton consignment of relief aid including foodstuff and other essentials has been sent to south Lebanon by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The aid package is to be distributed among people of south Lebanon and western al-Biqa' Valley who have suffered damage or left homeless as a result of Israeli attacks on southern parts of Lebanon.

In related news, head of the charity society of the Autonomous Republic of Nakichevan Saheb Akhundzadeh [as received] on Tuesday thanked Iran for its relief aid for the people of Nakhichevan.

He told IRNA that the people of the autonomous republic will never forget the foodstuff and fuels they received from Iran during the past winter.

Press Praises Recent Russian Foreign Policies

LD0806183492 Tehran IRNA in English 1722 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 8, IRNA—A commentary signed by Mohammad Javad Larijani in the Monday issue of the Persian daily ETTELA'AT lauded the Russians' decisions for pooling [as received] troops out of Armenia and Azerbaijan and for discontinuing their support for Serbia as two wise measures in the interest of the Russians.

It said the lingering presence of the Russian troops in other republics was the remnant of an already defunct ideology which could have no place under the present-day political circumstances.

Larijani was elected Majles deputy from Tehran in the recent polls and is also advisor to foreign minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

The commentary said:

"Last week we witnessed two new and important developments in the foreign policies of Moscow: Its reversing of support for the Serbs in the former Yugoslavia, and its decision to pull out its troops from Armenia and Azerbaijan.

"The firm support of Moscow for the Serbs, in addition to religious (orthodox) considerations and economic interests was probably based on Moscow's interest for having a (political) base in Europe. But the unprecedented crimes of the Serbs and their savage killing of people and the ruining of houses of innocent people made it obvious to Moscow that in addition to falling short of attaining its goals, Moscow's support for the Serbs will also be very costly.

"Therefore in a wise and logical about-face Moscow not only agreed to passing a resolution against Serbia, but also emphasized on the need for any contingent military actions.

"In my opinion it was a proper decision in Moscow's problem-ridden diplomacy, a decision to get rid of the remnants of still lingering traditional ideologies in the Russian system.

"The second decision, however, is far more significant: undoubtedly the Russian soldiers played a key role in the victories of the Armenian armed forces. But what can the ultimate result be? Can Armenia resolve the problem in Karabakh by resorting to force? That would be a gross mistake. Armenia and Azerbaijan can reach a proper and lasting solution by mutually respecting the inviolability of each other's borders and by eschewing from the use of force. Armenia should not feel too proud of a few militaristic victories.

"The result will come at the end. Obviously a procrastinating military encounter will cripple Armenia. On the other hand, the bodies of Russian soldiers being scattered here and there as a result of the aggression by Armenia has roused public hatred and anger in other republics where the Russian troops are still present. They all think tomorrow they may be challenged by this or that neighbor.

"Therefore the recalling of the Russian troops from the two republics should be evaluated as a discreet and well-calculated decision. To maintain relations with new neighbors perhaps Moscow will have to recall all its troops from those republics.

"It is no secret that Moscow is passing very crucial and fateful days, many predicting broadly-ruinous explosions and disintegration. To think more optimistically, after victory in the present fight for survival it will have only one way to choose for an active existence beyond its territories: The integration of Europe. To maintain the military troops in the republics is part of the previous, traditional project of the ruined system of the former Soviet Union which has no justification for the conditions at which Moscow now lives.

"Obviously to keep the generals busy all the time takes a uniquely smart mind, especially if they happen to have empty stomachs."

Turkey Invites Velayati to Attend OIC Conference

LD0906080492 Tehran IRNA in English 0550 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 9, IRNA—Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin has invited his Iranian counterpart 'Ali Akbar Velayati to attend the extraordinary meeting of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) on Bosnia-Hercegovina in Istanbul next week.

Cetin extended the invitation in a telephone contact with Velayati on Monday, announced the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

The OIC session is held at the request of the Islamic Republic of Iran to discuss the latest developments in the former Yugoslav republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Velayati welcomed the OIC initiative and voiced Iran's willingness to cooperate with the OIC to ease the sufferings of the Bosnian Muslims.

Va'ezi Meets With Brazilian Foreign Minister

LD1006090292 Tehran IRNA in English 0639 GMT 10 Jun 92

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, June 10, IRNA—Iran's deputy foreign minister for Euro-America met with Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Lafer Tuesday [9 June] and discussed Tehran-Brasilia relations.

Referring to the regional significance of both Iran and Brazil, Va'ezi expressed satisfaction with Tehran-Brasilia relations and said that convening of the third session of Irano-Brazil joint economic commission, to be held in Brasilia later this year, is a positive step towards promotion of bilateral ties.

Terming as important holding of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, Va'ezi expressed hope that the third world countries through adoption of a joint stand will make outstanding achievements in the conference.

The Iranian official also stressed the need for further cooperation among the countries in the south for better implementation of international agreements.

Va'ezi also briefed the Brazilian minister on the latest developments in the region, including the situation in Iraq, Afghanistan and the newly-independent former Soviet republics.

Lafer welcomed upgrading of Tehran-Brasilia relations and called for further promotion of bilateral ties and continuation of political consultations in future.

Va'ezi, is a member of the Iranian delegation to the ongoing 12-day Rio de Janeiro earth summit.

Reyshahri Praises Turnout at 'Pagans' Rally

LD0806142292 Tehran IRNA in English 1242 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Mecca, June 8, IRNA—Head of the Iranian hajj pilgrims Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahri in a message Monday appreciated active participation of all pilgrims who took part in the massive 'deliverance from pagans' rally, Sunday afternoon.

"To the same extent your clenched fists would make Almighty God satisfied, it would arouse anger of enemies of Islam, the Great Satan (the U.S.) in particular," Reyshahri's message read.

Meanwhile, head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) Ayatollah Mohammad Bakr Hakim described Sunday's gathering as "excellent and incredible".

He pointed to the massive turnout of pilgrims from other nationalities and said it was an indication of the influence of the message of the leader of the Islamic Republic Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i among the pilgrims.

Dr. Fathi Shaqaqi, one of the leaders of the Islamic movement of Palestine, told IRNA here that participation in the deliverance from pagans gathering "is an Islamic duty."

He noted that the gathering underlined deliverance from infidelity and global arrogance and gave a true essence to hajj rituals.

In another development, First Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besahrati stressed that Iran and Saudi Arabia enjoyed deep-rooted "powerful" relations.

Besharati told the daily 'AL-MADINAH' that none of the countries in the region paid attention to Islamic issues as much as Tehran and Riyadh did.

He underlined the importance of the role both Iran and Saudi Arabia played in the region and noted that establishment of security and stability in the region was impossible in the absence of the two countries.

As for Iran's relations with members of the (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council, Besharati noted that Tehran enjoyed the best ever fraternal relations with those states in general, and "with Saudi Arabia in particular."

Nateq-Nuri on 'Pagans' Rally

LD0906103192 Tehran IRNA in English 0947 GMT 9 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 9, IRNA—Majlis speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri Tuesday described 'deliverance from pagans' gathering as "one of the main principles of the hajj rituals."

Speaking at today's open session, Nateq-Nuri stressed that Muslims should take message of leader of the Islamic revolution Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i to the gathering as a guideline in their social life.

Hundreds of thousands of hajj pilgrims, braving hot weather, took part in a massive gathering in holy Mecca Sunday afternoon to express their hatred against the oppressors.

Turkmenistan Constitution To Be Based on Iran

LD0806111992 Tehran IRNA in English 0949 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Gorgan, Mazandaran Prov., June 8, IRNA—A senior Turkmen official here Monday said that the new constitution of the Republic of Turkmenistan will be compiled on the bases of the world's most perfect constitutions, those of Iran and Turkey in particular.

Nour Mohammadev Galdimurat, a member of Turkmenistan's Presidential Council, made the remark at the end of his visit to Iran in which he took part in the ceremonies marking the third anniversary of the demise of the late leader of the Islamic revolution Imam Khomeyni.

He noted that Ashkhabad's foreign policy was based on peaceful co-existence, good neighborly relations, noninterference in the affairs of others, and friendly ties with other countries.

The new constitution, the Turkmen official stressed, would fully respect the religion and religious activities.

As for programs to guarantee social welfare in Turkmenistan, he said that the country's general budget for the current year stood at 46 billion roubles, out of which 16 billion was paid in subsidies for flour, vegetable oil and meat.

Iron Works Contract Signed With Japanese Firm

LD0806104992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1930 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] A contract for setting up a huge sponge-iron production unit, with a capacity of one million tonnes per annum, was signed on Saturday between Qeshm Free Zone and Japan's Kube Steel Company.

The Central News Unit reports that on the basis of this contract, which was signed in the presence of Mines and Metals Minister Mr. Mahlujhi, between Mr. Shams-Ardakani, head of Qeshm Free Zone, and one of the directors of the Japanese company, the Qeshm Iron Company is going to be set up. It is worth noting that the ultimate capacity of this huge sponge-iron unit will be five million tonnes per annum.